# NDEPENDI

# 'Britain is slowly changing hands'



In politics, talk of turningpomis is a dangerous game, but during the past 48 hours the prospects for a Conservative election victory seem to have slipped from being merely unlikely to being barely thinkable. The Tories' hopes for a dramatic late revival seem desperate-

Their strategists like to say that as soon as the public believes the Conservatives can win the next election, then they cun win the next election. The trouble is, the public don't, and are now likely to stay sceptical. John Major prior camely on, almost heroic in his personal optimism. But in weeks like these he seems reminiscent of Private Eye's famously disastrous football manager, "The ashen-faced Ron Knee", while Tony Blair whooshes round America, playing Virtual Government.

The Staffordshire byelection doesn't, of itself, prove anything. By-elections are more like opinion polls than like general elections. They confront voters with a different question - not "which government do you choose? but rather, "how cross are you feeling with the powers that be this morning?"

mentally different thing from picking them - the Tories won back every seat that they had lost this way between 1987 and stories, Before Tamworth, the Tories were preparing a story about their regeneration in postponed.

They had been desperately



New friends: Tony Blair and President Bill Clinton in the Oval Office yesterday

Photograph: Gregg Newton/Reuter

hoping for a by-election result good enough to be presented as some kind of turning point. And then this -a slap across the chops, a kick in the bottom, a

Tory by-election defeats have Kicking governments is thor- hecome almost routine, but oughly enjoyable. But a funda- this weekend it feels as if Britain is slowly changing hands. Nor should sensible Tories take any pleasure in the shrinking of the Liberal Democrat vote, That 1992. But politics progresses by too is a warning. If voters' readiness to switch tactically is passed on from by-elections to general elections, then the Gov-1996 that will now have to be erament is looking at a much more serious defeat next year

Next year? Yes - as long as the Ulster Uniquists don't lose patience with Major, his administration can still survive into 1997. There will be further bad nights, particularly after the local elections. The story of the past few years has been one of political decay and I therefore predict more unpredictable events - another defection, a

damaging resignation, an unexpected parliamentary defeat. But these have become almost routine: an early election would need the withdrawal of unionist backing on a confidence motion, or the collapse of the Government from withthan ministers currently expect. in, and neither seems likely.

But the Tories' one-vote majority will further diminish the party's ability to shape events. In most machinet wars, this has become à government condemned to passivity.

Provocative legislation cannot be passed. The European Inter-Governmental Conference is a long, slow game of blocking and kicking into touch. The great economic recovery has become the Conservatives' Godot.

While in office, ministers are able to do relatively little with their formal power, in opposi-tion Tony Blair manages to seem impressively busy for a man with no money to spend. The other half of this week's sto-

ry has been his remarkably lifelike impersonation of a successful, old-time Conservative prime minister. Once, such porole were easy to recognise. We

knew them by their friends - the

American presidents, the directors of international capital, the media tycoons. We knew them by their calm assumption of the moral leadership of the middle classes. We knew them by the ruthless professionalism of their political organisation. And we knew them above all because they claimed almost to be above politics, standing for the

nation against the scheming of political extremists - in the TURN TO PAGE 2

### Major urged to move right

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

John Major yesterday came under pressure to move to the right to meet the challenge of Tony Blair's march on to the centre ground of British politics.

In the wake of Labour's crushing victory in Thursday's Staffordshire South East byelection, John Redwood, who challenged the Prime Minister Tory leadership last year, led Tory claims that the defeat required a change of direction, marked by hig tax cuts.

But Mr Major insisted he ould hold to a steady course: 'I have been in politics long enough not to over-react to any by-election result. I am disappointed by last night's result but politics is not an easy ride. I am here to do what is right and stick

Labour's Brian Jenkins took the seat with a near-record 22 per cent swing, reducing Mr Maor's Commons majority to one. Speaking from the United States before a meeting with President Clinton, Mr Blair put the Conservatives on notice: "If an opportunity presents itself to remove this Government then it's not merely an opportunity, it is our duty as the Opposition to try and remove

them," he said. The Labour leader welcomed the result as a "stunning" vindication of his eve-of-poll declaration that Labour was now the party of the centre, as well as the left of centre. He said: "1 think one of the things that last night's result shows is that New Labour is a new party of the centre ground, is a party that can

appeal across the classes and is a party that is capable therefore

of uniting the country,"

And the success of Labour's middle-class message in a classically Middle England seat reignited the Tory party's divisions over how to fight back against Mr Blair's appeal to their for-

mer supporters.
As Tory MPs privately expressed alarm that the Government might be running out of time to stage a recovery, several urged the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, to adopt a bold

tax-cutting strategy.

Mr Redwood said: "I think voters to the by election were saying the economic recovery is not enough, they want to see more action on tax... they want reassurance about the future direction of the country."

But the "One Nation" Tory Tim Devlin, MP for Stockton South, insisted the party had to fight for the centre ground. Anyone who's ever fought a marginal seat knows that you win in the centre ground and that it is the attractiveness of your policies to the hroad mass of the public, not just to your own traditional supporters. hich is what counts, he said.

The deputy prime minister Michael Heseltine insisted that the Tories' second-worst byelection defeat by Labour did not mean a change to the strategy of waiting for "real personal disposable income" to rise. The longer we have, the more the benefits of the sacrifices that we've made turn out into economic prosperity for the widest possible range of people." he

By-election result, page 2

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# Slaughtered cattle to be pulped and buried

PAUL FIELD

Slaughterhouses will destroy up to 30,000 cattle a week in the the proposed BSE cull with the beasts being dismembered to remove possible infected parts and the rest of the carcasses ground to a pulp and buried in cows and a further 100,000 landfill sites.

· Under government plans, abattoirs would remove the head, spinal cord, intestines and spleen from the animal for incineration. The rest of the carcass, not considered to be at risk of BSE, would be reduced to a form of extremely fine mincemeat by rendering plants and huried. The procedures are a means of getting around the chronic shortage of incineration

European agriculture officials talked late into the night to reach an agreement on the logistics of the disposal of older cows. The destruction could begin within a few weeks following the meeting of the beef management committee in Brussels. Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, said 'All UK beef on sale will cootinue to be from cattle under 30 months. Significant EU funds will be available to compensate farmers for the destruction of their older cattle."

The 30,000-a-week figure is double the number thought necessary under the Luxembourg agreement last week to keep all cattle older than 30 For around three months

the Government will not be able to limit the destruction to 15,000 normally slaughtered every week at the end of their productive life owing to the backlog of up to 100,000 old younger animals more than 30 months old awaiting slaughter on farms.

A spokeswoman for the Min-istry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food confirmed the details of the proposals placed on the negotiating table in Brussels. She stressed that the only carcasses to be entirely incinerated would he confirmed or suspected BSE cases.

The nine incineration plants licensed to destroy cattle can cope with 3,000 carcasses a

However, officials were tightlipped on the compensation package being considered. Renderers, which specialise in processing animal waste; have already been told they are to receive £112m a year to make up for the loss of business

in bonemeal for animal feed and beef products such as gelatin. Slaughter houses have been offered a £53m package, which accounts for the charges levied by the Meat Hygiene Service for

inspections every year. But the abattoirs want compensation for unsaleable stocks worth more than £70m, at pre-



Douglas Hogg: Thirty-month culling proposal to go ahead

collapse in the UK beef market. It is thought that up to 85,000 tons of beef are in abattoir chiller rooms, bonded warehouses at ports or in store on ships at sea.

Peter Scott, director of the Federation of Fresh Meat Wholesalers, representing 85 per cent of 450 slaughter bouses in Britain, said that without compensation the majority will go under

The federation has accepted the need for a rationalisation of the industry under which abattoirs and meat processing plants would be paid to go out of business, a move supported by the Meat and Livestock Commis-

Meanwhile the federation yesterday said it would reject a sent in store as a result of the ' European offer to buy up thoubeef. The NFU called the lack of UK interest in the offer astonishing and disappointing. Other European countries are selling thousands of tonnes of beef into storage.
The federation claimed it

made no sense to take top-quality beef out of the system at this time. UK meat traders are selling into storage just 140 tonnes of unwanted beef because of the BSE crisis. The price agreed with the EU's beef management committee was £220 per 100 kilos. Other countries jumped at the chance to guarantee a return on their beef in the midst of consumer doubts rather than take a gamble on a market upturn. France sold nearly 2,500 tonnes of beef while Germany is handing over more than 4,000

The decision marked the opening of the European beef stores for the first time in two years in the wake of the BSE scare. But the fact that so few British traders took up the offer suggests they still have coofidence in prices and are

Mr Scott said with more than half the beef supplies possibly being taken out of the system. the country will be short of beef: "Therefore it makes no sense at all to start taking the best quality beef away from the housewife and putting it into deep-freeze. It is not a boycott. it is simply not attractive."

# Israel pounds new targets

Israel's blitz on Lebanon began to turn into an international crisis last night after helicopters marauding over Beirut's southern suburbs opened fire on a Syrian anti-aircraft battery, killing a Syrian major and wounding eight of his men. The incident is likely to have grave repercussions on the crumbling Middle East peace negotiations.

Even as the Israelis were bombing the capital, up to 50,000 Lebanese refugees - fleeing from their homes after a warning by Israel that their villages would be assaulted in the hunt for Hizbollah fighters streamed towards Beirut. Earlier in the day. Hizbollah guerrillas retaliated for Thurs-

day's Israeli raids by launching more than 24 Katyusha rockets at northern Galilee, wounding five Israeli civilians at Kiryat Shmona; one of them, a woman, was critically injured when a missile exploded beside her car. Within hours, the Israelis took their own counter-retaliation by shelling the village of Yohmor

four Lebanese civilians and wounding eight others, including two girls aged 10 and 11. Another eight wounded civilians hit by Israeli shellfire were brought to hospitals in Tyre.

In southern Lebanon. Israeli troops were reported to be preparing for a parachute drop onto the semi-abandoned villages north of their occupation zone while hundreds of Hizbollah guerriltas - the only Lebanese who were not known to have suffered any casualties yesterday - lay in hiding in the hilltop hamlets, waiting for Israeli troops to arrive if an airborne attack materialised.

In a grim warning earlier in the day, the Hizbollah claimed responsibility for the missile attack on Kiryat Shmona, adding that this was merely the first response to "the crimes of the

The Hizbollah's leader, Sayed Hassan Nasrallah, said that Hizbollah's main retaliation which had not yet been visited upon the Israelis - would astound the world".

Further reports, page 10

### IN BRIEF

Today's weather Cloudy with a cool easterly wind. Some sunny spells later in most areas.



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### IRA terror suspect questioned by Garda

JASON BENNETTO and ALAN MURDOCH in Dublin

A 27-year-old man was being held in Dublin yesterday in connection with IRA activities in mainland Britain, including the recent London bombing campaign that shattered the

Anti-terrorist police are expected to apply for the man's extradition, although it is understood be is not being linked to the Docklands bomb in which two people died.

His arrest on Thursday morning followed a surveil-lance operation launched by the Irisb Garda's Special Branch when the 17-month IRA ceasefire ended in February.

It is believed the incidents the man will be questioned over include the three Semtex "bag bombs" that exploded in central London, one of which accidentally detonated on a double decker hus killing the IRA terrorist Edward O'Brien.

It is understood he was quizzed by the Garda vesterday about 1994 bombs in Brighton and Bognor Regis, which involved bicycle frames packed with explosives.

The man, from the north Dublin suburb of Finglas, was detained under the terms of Irish anti-terrorist legislation. This permits suspects to be er um to 48 ing he has to be charged or released by this morning.

British anti-terrorist sources yesterday confirmed their interest in the suspect. Scotland Yard declined to confirm that they would make an early application for his extradition. but it is understood this will

happen shortly. The IRA brought the ceasefire to an abrupt end with a 1.000lb fertiliser bomb planted in a truck that was left at South

Quay in London's Docklands on 9 February. On 15 February, a 5th Semtex bomb was left in a boldall inside a telephone box in Charing Cross Road, central Loudon. That device was made

safe and no-one was injured. On the evening of 18 February, O'Brien killed by his own bomh when it ripped apart the bus he was on as it passed along Aldwych, also in central London. Enough Semtex and bomh making equipment for a further 20 hombs were found later at O'Brien's flat in Lewisbam, south east London, with numerous documents.

In the early hours of 9 March another small Semtex bag bomb exploded in Old Brompton Road, Fulham, west London, causing minor damage. The IRA later acknowledged the device was one of theirs.

The suspect has also been questioned about the hicycle bombs used in August 1994. The terrorists packed several pounds of Semicx into the pannier bags of two hire bicycles.

A hike with a 5th bomb exploded in the main shopping precinct at Bognor Regis, West Sussex, badly damaging 15 shops, in Brighton, a mountain bike carrying a similar device was left at the Palace Pier, but was made safe.

Bicycle bombs had been used hefore in Northern Ireland, hut these were thought to be the mainland.

Meanwhile, it has emerged that Garda patrols discovered a 20-foot crater earlier this week at a remote spot in the Ox Mountains, County Sligo, near the village of Coolaney, Twist ed metal wreckage at the site suggested that explosive devices were being tested there. Last month, it was indicated that the IRA had developed a powerful new "barracks-

buster mortar.



Art on the beach: Tony Kitchell, a local painter, working on a seascape on the Pembrokeshire coast. Mr Kitchell has been using crude oil

### 'It looks as if Britain is slowly changing hands'

FROM PAGE 1 days when to he "political"

meant to be left-wing. Blair claims every description for himself. He is confidential in the White House and worldly in Wall Street. He advocates Labour as good for investment. By background and conviction. he is a middle-class leader of a somewhat traditionalist stamp; his rhetoric on taxes and crime right-wing during the Heath

When it comes to professionalism, Labour is now hard to beat. The Daily Telegraph now uses phrases like "carefully designed" and "meticulously planned" to complain about the smooth, content-free professionalism of new Labour. rather as the left once used to believe that the Conservatives' brilliant organisation was somehow utifair and un-British.

And finally, by ditching the word "left", Blair completes his journey to a politics which claims to be above faction, class or ideology, standing for the whole nation.

Once a left-wing party, then a party of the "Left-and centreleft", then just of the centre-left. it is now apparently to be simply a party of the centre. That is pushing things further than years ago. It is easy to mock. These are

things Blair needs to do to end the Tory century. But they affront real Tories and old So cialists alike and because of the despair felt by some Labour MPs about it, Blair's revolution may yet end in tears.

The lesson of the past few days, however, is that any such tears will be shed almost certainly in government, not in opposition.

### Tory by-election defeat mirrors opinion polls

SE Staffs: Full result

B. Jensens (Libb) 26, 150(1000).
J. Janies (C) 112 203(28%)
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Party) 85. Neville Serrice The World St., Feederley Up.
The World St., Feederley Up.
Sandy Action Against Crime
Life Means Life 53, David
Lices (Nating Live Party)
53, Aart Wood, (Dersonapo Restoration of the Death. Penalty) 45 Lab majority Swing C to Lab: 22%

1992 result: D'Lightbown (C) 29 180: B Jendris (Lab). 21 988: N Penlington (Lil) Dem) 5,540, C mel: 7,192. JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent:

Thursday's by-election in Staffordshire South East was the second-worst Conservative defeat by Labour since the war exceeded only by that in Dudley West during Tony Bfair's honeymoon" as the new Labour leader in December

Lahour's Brian Jenkins, leader of the local council, crushed Tory Jimmy James by one, achieving a 22 per cent

swing against the Government. The improvement in Tory performance since the 29 per cent swing in Dudley West was seized on early yesterday by Stepben Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health. But with Peter Snow's famous House of Commons graphic showing a theoretical majority for Mr Blair of 453, the Tory line of defence bad shifted by mid-

John Major led a chorus of ministers drawing attention to a similar swing in March 1991: "I remember many people consigned the Government to oblivion after the Ribble Valley by-election where the swing was the same." He went on to win the largest ever vote in the general election a year later, he said.

What he omitted to mention was that Ribble Valley's 25 per cent swing was lo the Liberal Democrats, who are capable of centre party. Nor did he mention that Labour won Monmouth in May 1991 on a 12 per cent swing - a mere half the size of Thursday's landslide in

Staffordshire, What will frighten Tory MPs in marginal scats about Thursday's vote was that it suggested the opinion polls might actually present an accurate picture of the electorate's mood. With Labour currently an average of 29 points ahead.

Nurse accused d

attempted murder A nurse was accused of trying to murder a patient yesterday after an investigation into alleged ill-treatment at a psychiatric ward. Shaun Darrock, 21, was remanded in custody by Bolton magistrates charged with the attempted murder of William Winnard, 51, and illtreatment of George Hunt, 86, at Bolton General Hospital.

The auxiliary nurse was arrested after an internal hospital inquiry. The results were given to police who launched their own investigation. A female nurse held for questioning was released on police bail.

### Aids test all-clear

More than 1,000 people in Scotland re-tested for the Aids virus because test equipment was faulty have been told their original results were accurate. Callers given the all-clear but concerned that their test results could be wrong jammed switch-boards at Aids charities over the Easter weekend.

### **IRA** torch victim

A grandfather is in intensive care after three masked men doused him with petrol and set him on fire. Attackers claiming to be members of the IRA put a hood over the head of Eamon Maguire, 58, at the back door of his home in Lurgan, Co Armagh. He is "stable" in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast

### Knifeman sprayed

A woman driver being attacked by a knifeman used WD40 oil spray to fend him off. She was trying to start her car after it broke down in north London on her way to work when a man stabbed her with a 9in knife. He fled when she sprayed his face. Police have not found the knife and say the man is dangerous.

### Gun blunder

William Garnett, the 36-yearold solicitor brother of the Heritage Secretary, Virginia Bot-tomley, was fined £100 for failing to store a shotgun securely at the family holiday home on the Isle of Wight. The weapon was stolen during a burgiary last November after being moved from its case following an earlier hreak-in, Newport magistrates were told.

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### concise crossword



### **ACROSS**

(5)

- Line of people (5) Cry noisily (4) Cooking (7) Banal (5)
- 10 Item that wags (4) Menace (8) 12 Means to cross a stream
- 15 Type of herbicide (8) 17 Mark of a beating (4) 20 Eat away (5) E.g. Waterloo (7) 22 Tidy (4) 23 Shoot from concealment

- Malaria treatment (7) Egress (4) Disease causing swelling (13)
- Beats (7) One of the "vital" statisties (5) Aherdonian, say (7) Gathering to contact the
- dead (6) County (6) 13 Proffer (7) 14 Former (3-4) lo Fur wrap (5) 18 Wild cat (4)

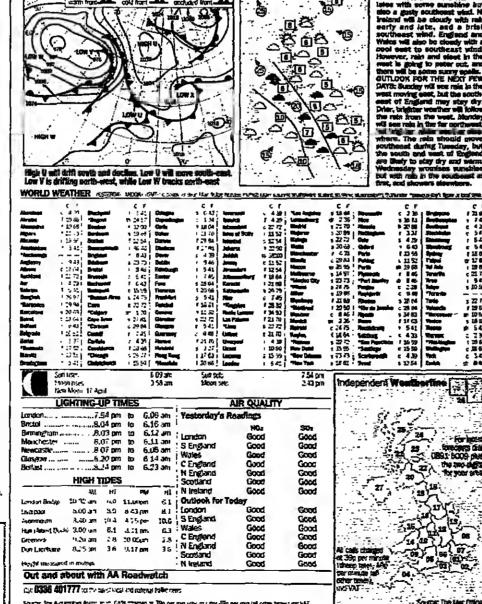
### 19 Cab (4) Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

Across: I Burr, 4 Lives (Burl Ives) 9 Cites. II) Vacancy. II lee folly. 12 Etch. 13 Nuclear energy. 17 Rhea. 18 tootopes, 21 Martini, 22 Aware, 23 Owing, 24 Echo. Down: 2 Unitie, 3 Rustore, 4 Level crossing, 5 Vice, 6 Senator, 7 Action, 8 Myth. 14 Cheerno, 15 Nitrate, 16 Yes-men, 17 Ramp. 19 Peach, 30 Hi-fi

**NOTES** 

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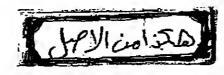
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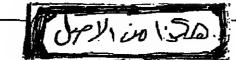
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# giving drug to let cancer mother die

Greater Manchester Police are investigating the death of an 80year-old woman after a man said he gave his cancer-stricken mother a morphine overdose in

Detectives have been called in by a coroner over the death in hospital of Alice Rowbottom after her son, Derek admitted administering two huge doses of the drug. Mr Rowbottom, 44, told PA News: "I was trying to put her out of her pain."

The father-of-two from Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester, said that he had been unable to bear watching his widowed mother die slowly from liver cancer at North Manchester General Hospital. He told nursing staff what he had done after her death.

Mrs Rowbottom died on Wednesday after spending more than six weeks in bospital, unable to cat, drink or move without crying out in pain. Her son said he had pleaded with nursing staff to leave his mother alone. Mr Rowbottom. who was devoted to his mother, said he sat by her bedside every day. "One day I noticed there was a booster hutton on her diamorphine pump and I just pressed it until the syringe was empty. Then I said to one of the nurses: 'There's something wrong with this pump, and they gave her another one

and I did the same again."
A nurse spotted Mr Rowbottom administering the sec-ond dose and hospital security was called in. Mrs Rowbottom's morphine pump was replaced with a tamper-proof patch so that her son could

Rowbottom said: "At least I know she was in no more pain. I loved my mother and I couldn't leave her like that. She wouldn't have left mc."

He was angry that doctors, who he said seemed unable to treat his mother, were unwilling to let her rest in peace. "They didn't even seem to know what was wrong with her. She was admitted with gall stones and I only heard yesterday she was supposed to have had can-

cer," he claimed.

He said detectives from
Greater Manchester CID had visited him at home and told him that there would be an inquest and an investigation. He added: "I don't regret what I did. She was in so much pain I just did the best I could for her.

Mr Rowbottom said his two grown-up sons and his wife fully supported his decision. He now hopes the inevitable publicity surrounding his case will help force a change in the law to end the suffering of those who wish to die. "If the law prevents you from helping some-one that you dearly love rest in peace it just wants changing." A spokesman for North Man-

chester Hospital Healthcare Trust said it was concerned at the allegations and would be setting up an internal inquiry.

Mr Rowbottom's disclosure came a day after Scotland's leading law officer, the Lord Advocate, Lord Mackay of Drumadoon, said in Edingburgh that doctors in Scotland who stop treating coma patients officially regarded as incapable of recovery will not face administer no more drugs. criminal prosecution for The hospital called in the or culpable homicide. criminal prosecution for murder

### Son admits | Passing out turns into an undercover operation



An official tipping water from his bowler hat at the Sovereign's Parade of officer cadets at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst yesterday. There were 650 cadets on parade, of whom 159 received commissions into the Army

### Firemen see red over unisex changing room

RICHARD SMITH

Alarm bells are ringing at a fire station where 59 male firefighters have been ordered to share their changing room with a female colleague. The firefighters say they are appalled at the idea of stripping off in front of 24-year-old Rebecca Walker.

They claim some men were threatened with disciplinary action when they turned out on rather than change into their

uniform in front of Miss Walker who was finishing her shift on hlue watch.

The row began after Miss Walker was given permission to change in the male locker room instead of a first floor lavatory she had been using at Worcester Fire Station where she is the only female firefighter.

Leading fireman Bob Clifton, 49, said "We may be hicks from the sticks but we have some idea of common sense and decency - and it's gone out of the window. The main problem is when you are stripped off naked. Nobody should be put in this po-sition - It's not a bloody peep show. I don't walk around stark naked in front of my daughter so why should I strip off in front of a woman at work.

There is a lot of ill feeling down there. The men are genuinely concerned. Some of them now change behind their locker doors and some of the wives don't like the situation. "It's not a case of being prudish – it's just taking equal opportunities too far." The Fire Brigades Union will meet Hereford and Worcester County Council chiefs next week in an bid to resolve the dis-

pute. Reg Moule, FBU county secretary, said: "The problem is not of the fire fighters' making. They have been told they have to lump it and I'm absolutely appalled. I've no objection to having communal locker areas hut provision has not been made to allow people to change

with any decency." Miss Walk-er was unavailable to comment. But a spokesman for the county council, which employs 10 female firefighters, said:

The decision to integrate the locker room is a part of a successful campaign by the county fire service to incorporate the council's equal opportunity measures throughout the hrigade ... This is not a question of asking people to strip naked - just a question of changing into their uniform."

### **Hunt for** teenager accused of killing pensioner

teenager accused of murdering a pensioner was being hunted yesterday after escaping while being taken swimming by social worker.

The 15-year-old was named s Cleon Reid on permission of as Cleon Keld on permission of Old Bailey Judge Geoffrey Grigson as he represented a po-tential danger to the public. Reid is described as having short curly hair and was wear-

shirt and blue jeans and

An inquiry is under way into how the six-foot Reid was able to flee "with ease" from his minder while awaiting trial. He was being held at Orchard Lodge assessment centre south-east London, under a restriction order on his movements.

He is accused of murdering Ted Howell, 75. allegedly stabbed to death during a hurglary at his home in Lewisham, south London in November.

Reid is understood to have heen arrested on 16 December and ordered to be detained on remand in the secure care of Lewisham Council. Judge Grigson agreed that Reid's identity up to now protected under a Thildren and Young Persons Act order - should be made public after bearing details of

the escape two days ago,
Nicholas Wood, prosecuting, told the judge the teenag-er had been taken to the swimming pool at Crystal Palace sports centre by a social

"He is now on the run and police are understandably ex-

tremely concerned." Terry Munyard, defending Reid, said his client suffered emotional problems and there was fear for his own safety.

Reid, from south-east London, was due to stand trial in June. He apparently escaped his male supervisor.

The super-rich: Unknown businessman enters wealth league

### Souvenir king becomes Britain's newest billionaire

**CHRIS BLACKHURST** 

A man who made his money wooing Japanese tourists to his theme restaurants and souvenir kiosks by hiring staff who spoke their language has become Britain's newest billionaire, taking him within reach of Britain's richest man, Hans Rausing. with £2.88bn.

Joseph Lewis is eighth in line, after Mr Rausing, the Swedish drinks packaging king - he runs the Tetra Pak empire who lives in West Sussex. While Mr Rausing, 70, maintains a low profile, the secretive Mr Lewis, 59, leaves him standing. He holds court in Lyford Cay, the playground of the su-per-rich in Nassau, Bahamas, but is rarely seen in public and has never submitted to a press

In the past year he has emerged, through his Abel in-vestment vehicle, as owner of a 29 per cent stake in Christie's, the London auction house. The City is bracing itself for a full takeover hid from Mr Lewis, who recently took the unusual step, for him, of hiring a financial public relations firm.

If he does make a play for Christie's. Mr Lewis may find his fortune barely dented. Some observers reckon he could be worth as much as £5bn. From



Braced for takeover bid: Christie's auction house, London

leaving school and joining his fa-ther's restaurant business they ran the Beefeater by the Tower of London, among others to which Japanese tourists flocked because of staff and signs in their own language - he

player of the world's currency markets, making millions from taking shrewd positions and building up an almost legendary reputation among dealers.

The family firm was sold in 1979, for an undisclosed sum, has proved himself an astute and he became a tax exile. He

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owns a large slice of the Union discount house, and controls the English National Investment Trust. In North America, hc owns a Florida country club and

a security company.

He has some high-profile friends, notably John Francome, the former champion jockey, Michael Smurfitt, the Irish paper tycoon and Robert Earl, founder of Planet Hollywood, but stays in the back-ground. Maurice Barnfather, his newly-appointed PR man, said vesterday: "Mr Lewis is a private, quiet man who is not courting publicity and wishes to maintain a quiet, family life."

Mr Lewis shares eighth spot in the Sunday Times list of Britain's Richest 500 people, published tomorrow, with the Hinduja hrothers, Gopi and Sri, and Viscount Rothermere. The Hindujas trade in chemicals, oil, motor vehicles and telecommunications, mainly on the Indian sub-continent but internationally as well, from their hase in London.

They could soon be joined by Mr Lewis's friend, Mr Earl, who has seen his wealth shoot up from £80m to £350m in just one year, thanks to the world-wide success of Planet Hollywood and is well on his way to be-coming Britain's first hillionaire restaurateur.

# Amis relives his year-bashing

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

The novelist Martin Amis is considering writing his first work of non-fiction - an account of his annus horribilis.

The autobiographical work, based on last year, would give his side of the story about twelve months in which he left his wife and children, saw his famous father die and endured a barrage of bad publicity about his desire for a £500,000 advance on his most recent novel, The Information.

Speaking for the first time since he was "hung out to dry" in the gleeful row over his apparent greed and subsequent rift with his agent, Pat Kavanagh, and her husband, the novelist Julian Barnes, Amis what all the fuss was about".

when he made the "idle refor The Information. His publishers, Cape, were unable to come up with the money.

Amis then left Kavanagh for the New York agenl Andrew Wiley - nicknamed "The Jackal" - who managed to squeeze the desired sum out of Harper-Collins, in return for the novel and a book of short stories.

The story leaked out, gaining momentum from the remarks of novelist AS Byatt, who observed that writers should earn their advances and lamented the behaviour of the "strutting. boys of the book world".

But Amis says he is still confused by the affair. "Was it because of my father? Was it just the money? But other writers also says he "still has no idea get that kind of money, it's not so much for two books, written Kavanagh was Amis's agent over several years - it's not a lived, not my life anyway."

mark" to her that he would like it out." he says in a remarkably the half-million pound advance frank interview with Waterstone's magazine published this

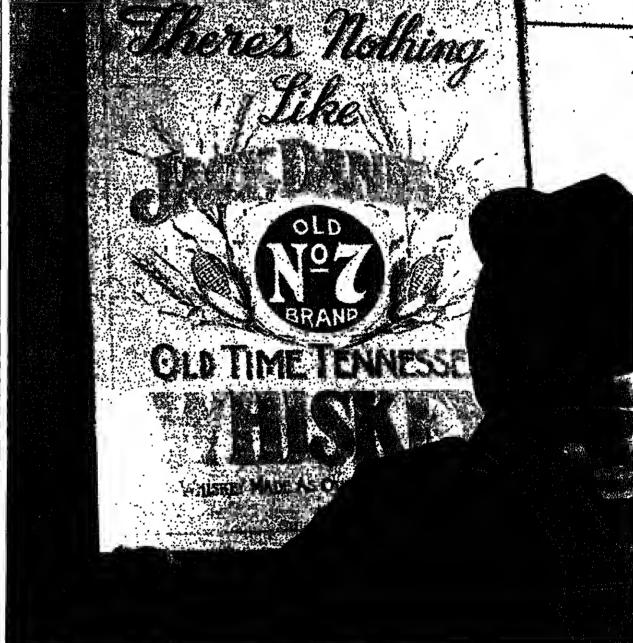
The rift with Barnes, a close friend, was painful, he admits. "It wasn't in the contract. I felt like I'd lost control. I was hung out to dry. An idle remark about what we should ask for my novel became like a banner over my head and I was marching The scandal over his decision

to leave his wife and two children for the writer Isabel Fonseca also mystified Amis. "It seems very English to me. Everyone said I'd abandoned my children and was living in New York with an heiress, and I must say I sometimes wished I was. People said my affair with Isabel was a cliche - but excuse me, that's not how lives get

Amis talks about the death of his novelist father Kingsley and admits he felt energised, as though the "great obstacle of the father" had gone and he was fulfilling his destiny to be in the forefront. "It feels very different without him - although l haven't worked out what the difference is, exactly," he says.
"There's a way in which it's

liberating: I don't run things by him in my mind, don't ask myself what Dad would think of that, or hear his voice inside me saying impatiently, 'Crappy "Dad was my ghostly sub-editor. Although he didn't read

my books, of course, though I read all of his. I dedicated London Fields to him and he read about 30 pages. He didn't get it ... But yeah, I minded when it was clear he just couldn't finish my novels - il was a generational kind of taste, I think."



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Walk on the wild side: Members of the Ramblers Association, who hold their annual meeting in Swansea, West Glamorgan, this weekend, braving the wind and rain yesterday to exercise their right to roam the hills and natural beauty of the Gower peninsular at Clyne Common

Photograph: Rob Stratton

### BNFL fined over Sellafield worker's radiation dose

British Nuclear Fuels was fined working in its main fuel sepa-£25,000 yesterday after admit-ration area had failed BNFL ting "serious and significant" failures in safety that left a worker at its Sellafield plant conta-

minated with radioactivity. Carlisle Crown Court was told that the company's system of controlling the amount of contamination from plutonium to which a 53-year-old con-

was also ordered to pay £16,104 costs after pleading guilty to a

hreach of safety regulations. Henry Globe QC, for the prosecution, said it was "fortuitous that plater James Martin had only received a relatively low dose of radioactivity as he worked to replace bolts on a tractor was exposed while ventilation duct without prop-

er protective clothing in June 1994. A partly-legible work per-porary drainage bottle with mit had failed to state that Mr Martin should bave been wearing gloves and a mask.

And there were a series of other errors in the permit. made worse by an operation supervisor's failure to inspect the area before work started and a company health monitor who did not know she should have

which Mr Martin came into contact had been rigged up on the duct to cope with a leak and had heen left incomplete, un-

months, Mr Globe said. "Individually the failures were of differing importance. Collectively, though, they bave produced a serious and signif-

icant failure to discharge the statutory duty owed by the defendants to Mr Martin."

After it was discovered that he had become contaminated, changing-room staff wrongly marked and insecure" for 18 allowed him to put back on his radioactive dothing before going to the surgery in the Cumbrian plant, increasing the risk

of contamination spreading. Mr Martin panicked when a

episodes of acute anxiety after

gations have been designed to prevent a recurrence".

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checking instrument had "gone off the scale" and suffered the incident, Mr Globe said.

In a statement after the hearing BNFL said it recognised that compliance with safety procedures was not up to its "usually high standards". It added that follow-up reviews and investi-

mount fresh legal challenge French win

Privatisation row: Objectors

# **Brighton** railway franchise

BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

One of Britain's busiest rail networks was taken over by a French company yesierday which warned of job losses and declared there would be no new trains. CGEA. a subsidiary of the giant General des Eaux, has won the seven-year franchise to run services in the

Network SouthCentral area. The Government greeted the news as "an excellent deal for the taxpayer, while Labour said the sale was "knee deep in dogma and sleaze and pointed out that the successful hidder was presently under investigation for fraud.

The news emerged as the Save our Railways pressure group announced a fresh chalenge to rail privatisation. The High Court action is being taken against Roger Salmon, the rail franchising director, to allow British Railways Board to bid for lines. In December, the organisation delayed the fran-chising process when it won a Court of Appeal ruling that Mr Salmon had not followed government instructions on minimum service levels to be

provided by successful bidders.
At Network SouthCentral, Antoine Hurel, the vice-chair-man of London and South Coast - the company formed by CGEA to run the network promised that while there may be redundancies, services would improve. Mr Hurel said there would be faster and upgraded services between London and Brighton, new off-peak and Sunday trains in south London and improvements in punctuality. The network covers routes out of Victoria, Charing Cross, and London Bridge stations to Kent, and Sussex.

"slam door" coaches on the

Mr Salmon said the rolling stock would last until the end of the franchise and that replacing it would not be eco-nomic. The Health and Safety Executive had approved the decision, he said.

Mr Hurel confirmed that the company was likely to reduce job numbers, but said cutting jobs was not a goal in itself and there would be negotiations before decisions were taken. He said the company would invest £10m to improve stations and trains. After applying for £106.28m in state subsidy. CGEA will receive £85.3m in the first year, gradually declining over seven years to £34.6m

The parent company already has significant interests in the United Kingdom, including the Onyx street cleaning and refuse collection service and several small water companies. The French group has beaten off a combined challenge from Stagecoach, which won the Southwest franchise, and the National Express coach company.

The Great Western is also already in the private sector. The East Coast Main Line is to be operated by the Bermuda-based company Sea Containers, and Garwick Express will be run by National Express. The preferred bidder for Midland Main Line is also National Express. but this is the subject of an Of-

fice of Fair Trading Inquiry. Sir George Young, Secre-tary of State for Transport, yesterday's successful bidder was one of Europe's foremost private rail operators". He said the Network SouthCentral deal was "excellent" for the taxpayer and the travelling public. But Clare Short, Labour's transport He said the company was spokeswoman, said the sale "was "comfortable" with the 600 knee-deep in dogma and sleaze".

mall

### Drivers set for further pay rise

crease won by train drivers' ter negotiations on an annual pay increase, it emerged yesterday, writes Barrie Clement.

The massive 20 per cent oftalks, but the company also faces a claim for a "substantial" pay increase as part of the nor-mal wage round. Great Western is likely to end up paying a fur-ther 3 to 3.5 per cent - the "going rate" in much of industry.
The other 24 train operators

face the same pressure from Aslef, the train drivers' union, which although bitterly op-posed to privatisation, believes the process presents considerable opportunities to improve drivers' pay.

Operators will attempt to pay for increases through productivity, but the growing pow-er of Aslef could eventually have implications for train fares.

Aslef strategists contend that it will now be possible to pick companies off one by one - an approach which was not possible under Britisb Rail. Union officials are in dis-

On top of the 20 per cent in- cussions with all the other companies - including freight opleaders at Great Western, the company will also have to ensubmitted. Aslef is insisting that all companies honour British Rail's commitment to reduce the working week from 39 fer came out of productivity to 37 hours by August. Lew Adams, general secretary, said that the reduction in working time was not negotiable and warned of industrial action if any operator sought to ignore

BR's pledge. Mr Adams said there was no difficulty in dealing with a changing system in which most companies were still in the state sector, others were moving over and two had been pri-vatised. "We are negotiating with whom we can and insisting on the April settlement date. he said. "Clearly the outcomes will

differ, but we are insisting that the old system in which a low basic was topped up by overtime and allowances is replaced with a pensionable salary.'

At Great Western it is proposed that basic pay increases from £11,564 to £20,000. The of-fer is to be put to a ballot.

### Graduates happy to go deeper into the red

Graduates are starting their working lives with increasingly bigger debts, according to research published today.

Six months after leaving university, last year's gradu-ates owed an average of £2,930 - a rise of 31 per cent on the average £2,236 deht in 1994,

the survey, commissioned by Barclays Bank, reveals. Those successfully pursuing their chosen careers were willing to get deeper into debt. Graduates on the first rung of the career ladder owed an average £3.564 compared with unemployed graduates, who had £2,374 to pay back.

The survey, based on 961 graduates nationwide, also found that men tended to owe over £1,000 more than women.

The average graduate debt for men was £3,476, compared with £2,414 for women - explained by more men entering

full-time jobs on higher pay.

The survey also found some regional variation, with thrifty graduates from Wales and Northern England owing the least - £2,600 and £2,586. Graduates from the South West owed the most -£3,280 because they were successful in entering chosen careers and

more willing to incur debt.
Attitudes towards student loans and being in the red have also changed. A total 64 per cent of last year's graduates were resigned to debt, or not bothered by it, compared to 50 per cent who were unconcerned



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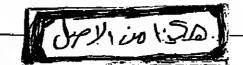
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n row: Objectors



Düsseldorf disaster: Prosecutors focus on workmen in probe into fire which killed 16, including British soldier

problems in Terminal C.

will be re-routed.

ter in this country.

pened in Düsseldorf.

# Welders face charges over airport blaze

German prosecutors may press criminal charges against welders believed to have started the fire at Düsseldorf airport which killed 16 people including a British soldier named yesterday as Martin Smith.

But airport authorities are also under investigation after hemerged that firefighters were not called until half an hour after the blaze broke out, and some passengers complained there were no alarms.

Martin Smith, 22, was travelling home to Tamworth, Staffordshire, on leave from his German base in Münster where he served with the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards when he was caught in the hlaze which engulfed the terminal in 15 minutes.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said he was single and had enlisted in in 1992. "This is a sad death," he added.

Seven Germans, including a seven-year-old boy, six French people and two Italians also died. The German government ordered federal huildings to

pital suffering from the effects of thick black smoke which filled the hall and sparked panic among 2,500 staff and trav-

German prosecutors said they were considering criminal charges against maintenance workers. They believe welders inadvertently melted a hitumen sealant which dripped onto a false floor containing electri-

PVC-covered caliles began to

They arrived within a minute, but flames spread like wildfire through cables in the ceiling and they appear to have been helpless to tackle it.

City firefighters were not called for nearly half an hour, said a spokesman, Wolfgang Rochr, When they discovered the seriousness of the blaze, they immediately issued an alert bringing in pumps from across the city. It was 4.25pm before

the airport was fully evacuated 'Nobody should be complacent. We will look very carefully to see if

chloride, carbon monoxide and possibly dioxin fumes which spread through the building's the 250-yard hall. Angelina ventilation shafts. Rolf Chanteaux, a prosecu-

there are lessons to be learned'

tor, said: "We have opened an investigation for negligent arson and negligent killing. The fire, Germany's worst

smoulder, emitting cyanide,

ever at an airport, hroke out at 3.30pm on Thursday, but ini-Two people were critically ill tially only the airport's own last night out of 62 taken to hosfirefighters were called.

and five hours before the fire was brought under control. Survivors spoke of smoke taking only seconds to envelop

Russo, an Italian who arrived with her two-month baby on one of the last flights to land, said: 'l was frightened, just fright-

until Monday. Spokesman Jorn Bücher said the whole of Terminal A was badly hurnt-out,



marble were also a danger. Mr Bressington said his firm had also received reports from a member of its staff who was at the airport that the fire alarms were not working.

and plastic rather than steel and

A spokeswoman for the British Airport Authority, which covers seven airports including Gatwick and Heathrow, sald they had an "excellent safety record" and there were very strict rules to prevent a similar



Footprints from fleeing passengers, staff and firefighters on the soot-covered terminal floor at Dusseldorf after the fire that killed 16 Photograph: Edgar Schoepal

### Bid to launch first gay TV channel

MARIANNE MACDONALD

Britain will get its first gay and year, if an anonymous consortium of business men and women is successful in its licence

application. The Rainbow Television Network believes there is a lucrative market for "camp and kitsch" programming which will appeal not only to gay people, but those who are "gay-friendly".

The channel, believed to be

planned for both cable and satellite, is the concept of an anonymous group of gay and straight business people who are all, according to a spokesman,

very successful in their fields. If their application for a 10-year licence is issued by the Independent Television Commission, the Rainbow Television Network hopes to start broadcasting next year between 6pm

Emphasis will be on enterainment programmes, both commissioned and bought-in. and music, fashion, travel. drama and film. There will be a substantial live element, but no pornography.

for the consortium, said: "Some of it will be very camp and some extremely kitsch, but it will also he informative. We want to bring in new presenters, but they don't have to be gay."
The Rainbow Television Net-

work believes its channel will be able to exploit the power of the so-called "pink pound", already the target of several dedicated newspapers and magazines.

It estimates there are up to seven million gays and lesbian: in Britain, who are not properly served by the terrestrial cable or satellite stations. The network is aiming for 250,000 subscribers in its first year.

"The gay community has the money. They rarely have children, go out more, go to the cinema, eat in restaurants and spend a lot on clothes," Mi Johnson said. "People are beginning to realise just how his

### Change in law will allow 16-year-olds behind bar

BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

Sixteen and 17-year-olds could he serving alcohol in pubs by the end of the year under proposals drawn up by the Government. Ministers want to amend licensing laws so that school leavers can go straight into the pub trade instead of waiting until they are 18. The hig brewers have regis-

tered their strong support for the reform, arguing that re-strictions imposed by the Licensing Act of 1964 mean they lose "young talent" to other retail outlets. In a consultation paper, the

Home Office has suggested that school leavers be allowed to serve behind bars, provided they were on approved "puh apprentice" schemes leading to National Vocational Qualifica-

are banned from working in the bars of licensed premises.

Firefighters inspect the burnt-out terminal at Düsseldorf Photograph: Amd Wiegmann

A spokeswoman for the Catholic Church yesterday said bishops opposed the idea because young bar staff would not only serve alcohol, they would be more likely "to end up drinking it". The spokeswoman said it would he hetter if young Britons were introduced to al-

cohol at a younger age as part of normal family life, as they are in France. However drinking in Britain was seen as the preserve of adults. "In this country, teenagers have to drink 18 pints of lager in order to prove themselves. We do not have a mature attitude to alcohol, so we think the law should stay as it is."

However, neither the Roman Catholic Church nor the Church of England were consulted by the Government.

some smaller breweries have registered their opposition. partly on the grounds that they will not be able to offer apprenticeship schemes. They fear that the hig brewers will have an unfair competitive advantage If they are able to take on young

employees and pay them less. The charity Alcohol Con-cern was involved in the consultation exercise and said it was "cautiously supportive" of the plan, provided there was strict supervision and that the effect

of the change was monitored. "The drinks trade as a whole has not got a magnificent record for training its employees, that's why we are emphasising the need for proper supervision." Kim Parish, management de-

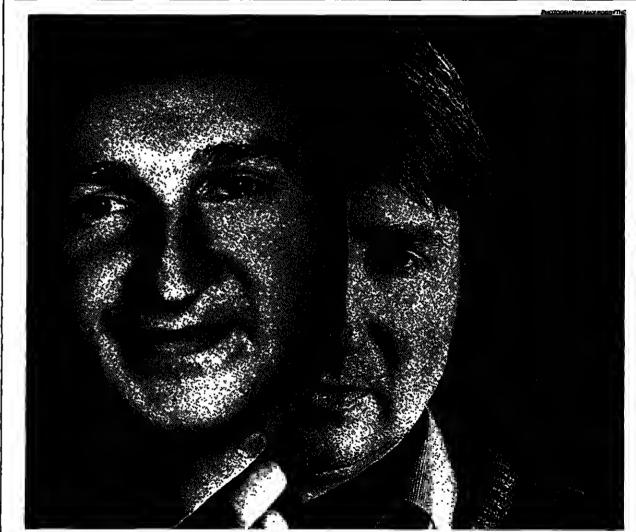
Newcastle brewery group is the year.

with the change, insisting that it would ensure young bar staff were properly supervised.

"We would not put a 16-yearold in a position where there could be a potential problem. They would not be serving in pubs where large numbers of customers were drinking heavily," she said. Young trainees would be employed at family pubs or where the emphasis was

Brewers point out that 16 and 17-year-olds already worked in pubs in Ireland, where there did not appear to be a problem.

The consultation period stipulated by the Home Office ended on 29 March and ministers are hoping to lay an order before parliament on 3 June. velopment and training director at the Scottish and come into affect by the end of The new regulation would then



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### et rolling through, we'll go through it with you. The Samaritans

# Antiques guide couple sunk by £2.9m debts

The couple behind the world-famous Miller's Antiques Price Guide have called in the receivers after their company incurred debts of more than

Martin and Judith Miller, who now live apart, made a fortune from sales of the guide. but now face personal losses of more than £2m.

Mrs Miller is the co-presenter with Ross Benson of the Channel 4 antiques programme, For Love or Money.

The couple owned Chilston Park Hotel in Sandway near Maidstone, Kent, a 17th century hotel known for attracting the rich and famous. The Grade I listed building was under their management for 10 years.

They sold the property in December last year for £2m while trading under the name of Chilston Park Hotel - a name they changed recently to Waylen 1996.

But at the end of January this year the receivers Coopers & Lybrand were called in by Lloyds Bank to sort out mountIn a letter sent to creditors it was revealed that the couple's company owed £486,000 to the bank, £68,000 to Customs and Excise and £28,000 to the Inland Revenue. More than £2.3m is said to be directors' loans.

Businesses across the country are thought to be owed around £92,000 and receivers say that they are unlikely to receive the cash back.

The deht also includes those incurred while the couple were trading in partnership as MJM Property Developments.

A spokesman for Coopers & Lybrand, based in Maidstone, said: "Mr and Mrs Miller are a charming couple and I am not prepared to go into the amounts owed other than to say it is a rather large sum.

"There is a meeting with the creditors next week [at Bearsted, near Maidstone) and it is only right that we wait until then before going any deeper into the situation."

Mr Miller, who now lives in south-west London, was imavailable for comment yester-

### Woman ran down cheating husband

A woman who ran down her husband outside his mistress's home escaped jail yesterday. Anne Marie Lenehan drove into her husband Joseph as he

goaded her in the street, Manchester Crown Court was told. Mr Lenehan was thrown into the air and hit his head on the ground, causing blood to seep into his brain. He was detained m hospital for over a month, but he and his wife are trying to save

their marriage and she is expecting their fourth child in July. That saved Lenehan, 30, from jail, said Assistant Recorder Nicholas Gilchrist as he gave her a suspended prison sentence of 18 months.

that a motor car is a potential lethal weapon, every hit as dangerous as a gun," the judge said. Lenehan had admitted causing grevious bodily harm.

Rowena Goode, for the prosecution, said the couple married in 1983 and had three children, Callum, nine, Laine, six, and Shannon, two.

family home in Chorlton, Cheshire, and had a series of affairs before beginning a relationship with Michelle Bowen. Following an altercation at Miss Bowen's home in Chorl-

ton on Boxing Day, 1994, in which the two women exchanged blows, Lenehan and her husband got back together and she thought she was pregnant. But one night last June she was told her husband's car was outside Miss Bowen's flat. Lenehan went round with the

children, threw a bag of his dirty clothes into the hall, and drove off. Two hours later she returned and her husband stood in front of the car goading her to run This case well illustrates him over. She hit him at between 10-and 20mph, knocking him over the bonnet. Lenehan later gave herself up to police.

Philip Curran, for the defence, said Lenehan had been a devoted mother who suddenly found out her husband was having affairs. "It is not surprising that on that night she was agitated to say the least. It But the marriage deterio- would have taken a super-hurated and Mr Lenehan left the man effort to keep her cool."

Criminal justice: Giving victims greater voice in punishment rejected by judge in continuing war of words with Home Secretary

# Taylor renews attack against sentence plans

HEATHER MILLS Home Affairs Correspondent

The country's most senior judge yesterday launched a fresh at-tack on the Home Secretary's bandling of the criminal justice system when he warned against further unwelcome importations from the American legal

Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, cautioned against giv-ing victims too loud a voice in the punishments and sentences handed out by the courts to their attackers. But he outlined his own proposals for informing courts of the effects on crime on the victims.

Re-opening the war of words between the judiciary and the Government over the latest plans to hand down tough new minimum sentences, Lord Taylor said the current fixation with sentencing as the key to the justice system was "a highly fashionable error". And he said that to talk of justice for victims in terms of sentencing was not only to look at the system "through the wrong end of the telescope", but also to ignore a

major section of it. But he accepted, in a speech to a Victim Support conference



Lord Taylor: Warning over American importations

in Newcastle upon Tyne, that the views of victims should play a part in the courts process. In another swipe at Michael Howard's sentencing plans, he said he hoped that in the "current stampede to build new prisons" the requirements of Victim Support should not be overlooked.

He suggested that police investigating crimes should make notes of the impact of the crime on the victim and this could be passed on to the court. But he warned that it should not be

used as a tool to impose unjustly harsh sentences and he rejected outright introducing the American system of victims making statements to the court.

He added later: "The notion that if you sentence longer and longer and longer it's going to be better and better for the pubic is quite wrong.

The public has an interest in eeing that people are rehabiltated and, of course, they should be punished appropriately. But the idea that because a particular victim has suffered very severe injuries, let's say. there must be absolutely comparable injury or detention on the perpetrator is, I think,

inappropriate."
Yesterday's criticism of goverament penal policy was, by Lord Taylor's recent standards, a muted affair. Last month be declared all-out war - accusing the Government of introducing a succession of ill-thought out. hasty and contradictory criminal justice legislation and warning of the dangers of under mining public confidence.

Earlier this week, Judge

Stephen Tumim, former chief inspector of prisons, added his voice to the mounting opposition from nearly all practition-



ers within the criminal justice Penal Affairs Consortium, system. Even some senior powarned that giving the victim too great a say could undermine justice. "It would be wrong for lice officers have broken ranks to say more should be invested a court to pass a heavier sentence on the ground that the vic-

prevention rather than prison for criminals who are caught tim favoured severe punish and convicted. ment. Some victims are under-Lord Taylor won immediate upport yesterday from penal standably vengeful, while othreformers. Paul Cavadino, of the

### End to slopping out brings flush of pride

HEATHER MILLS Home Affairs Correspondent.

Friday 12 April, 1996, will be remembered as one of the greatest days in penal history—
the end of "slopping out" in the
country's 136 jails.
As the last plastic pot was cer-

emoniously discarded at Arm-ley jail in Leeds, West Yorkshire - the last prison to have flushing lavatories for all installed penal reform groups applaud-ed the end of the "single most degrading element of imprisonment this century". No more queues of men and

women shuffling along to empty their pots of the night's waste in the sluice rooms, no more steach and no more parcels of excrement lobbed out of windows - making the cells bearable but fouling the grounds.

Anne Widdecombe, the prisons minister, and Richard Tilt, prisoners and staff". Director General of the Prison rian jail on the outskirts of the

city to take credit for the six year programme to install integral sanitation in all jails. "I am glad this unpleasant daily ceremony has been brought to an end at last," said Ms Widdecombe.

But the man whose relentless campaign really brought about the reform was not invited. From the moment he became the Chief Inspector of Prisons eight years ago, Judge Stephen Tumim, determined to end "slopping out". He said yesterday: "It seemed to me that you could not pursue other penal reforms without first tackling the most basic and giving people some dignity."

He commissioned a report

Woolf who, in his review of prisons following the Strangeways riots in 1989, said it was an "uncivilised and degrading process, which destroyed the morale of

Ministers took the massive Service, travelled to the Victo- project on board and it was

short of target - but no one is complaining about that, only that the issue was never tackled

The irony that Armley - built 150 years ago - was the last to convert was not lost on prison watchers. Victorian jails like Armley were actually built with sanitation systems - they were ripped out at the turn of the century to make way for more accommodation and to make

life "tougher" for inmates.
"This is a very welcome return to Victorian values," said Paul Cavadino, chair of the

Penal Affairs Consortium. For Judge Tuming, who lost his contract as Chief Inspector and it was adopted by Lord of Prisons, because, according to insiders, he had become a thorn in the side of the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, it will become a fitting epitaph.

"I will be perfectly happy to be remembered as the person who introduced the sound of thousands of flushing lavatories completed just a few weeks to Britain's jails," he said.

### **Queen Mother** defended over Mrs Simpson

Prince Edward yesterday descuded the Queen Mother against charges that she harboured a personal hatred for the late Duchess of Windsor.

The Prince was speaking after the press screening of Edward on Edward, his documentary about the abdication and exile of his great-uncle, the Duke of Windsor.

The Queen Mother - the prince's grandmother - is hardly mentioned in the two-hour documentary. But Prince Edward said afterwards: "There are all sorts of stories in the public domain involving the Queen Mother which I believe are actually fatally inaccurate.

"She, like every other royal lady in the household at the time, was put in an utterly impossible position by Edward's decision to marry a divorcée. They were never going to be able publicly to acknowledge

her in any way.

The inevitable gulf that occurred has been interpreted by people to say that it was a deep-seated and personal matter which, from all that I have discovered, just isn't the case."

The Prince's comments contradict the widely-held belief that the Queen Mother never forgave the Windsors for cata-Royal Highness, and lived in ex-ile with her husband for most of their lives after they married.

Prince Edward also defends rated with the Nazis during the Second World War. In the documentary, made by his own Ardent Production company, he through that." awkward, selfish and intransigent to deal with, but there's no evidence that he would ever be-Iray his country."



The Queen Mother (above) and the Duchess of Windsor



The lack of documentary evidence has been interpreted by some critics as indicating a cover-up. "I can't uncover any evidence of that, and I have pulting her husband, George, on to the throne, for which he was tried." said the Prince, who not prepared. The Duchess was gained privileged access to roynever granted the title Her al archives in making the programme. Not only the Queen Mother, but other members of the Royal Family, including the Queen, were largely omitted his great-uncle against histori- from the documentary, to be ans charges that he collabo- screened in two parts later this month. "That was quite deliberate," the Prince said. "I didn't feel it was necessary to put them

association with Desmond Wilcox, will be transmitted on on ITV on Tuesday 23 April and Tuesday 30 April.

### Science failing to keep its promises'

Modern science has failed and brought more diseases together with the destruction of the environment, according to a leading American biologist.

Professor Richard Levins said there had been impressive achievements in modern science but also dramatic failures including: the appearance of new diseases such as toxic shock syndrome and chronic fatigue syndrome as well as the resurgence of old ones such as malaria and cholera; increased stress, anxiety, overwork and unemployment caused by industrial design which was intended to result in greater efficiency; new pest problems created by pes-ticides which poisoned the natural habitat and new pathogens created by antibiotics which

were resistant to drugs.

In a lecture in Edinburgh where he was being presented with the annual Edinburgh Medal and £5,000 for his work, the Professor of Population Sciences at Harvard School of Public Health criticised science for being driven to make new discoveries without considering

the consequences. He said science should be revitalised to take account of the long-term effects on society. "We have bred plants and animals to fit our technologies, invented new ways of communicating and of diagnosing diseases and predicting the weather. But science also has had dramatic failures ... promises of understanding and progress have not been kept, and the application of science to human affairs has often done great harm," he said.

It was no surprise there had been an anti-science backlash with research spending cuts and young people turning away from the subject, Professor Levins said. In his appeal for a new approach he called for scientists to change their attitude.



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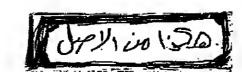
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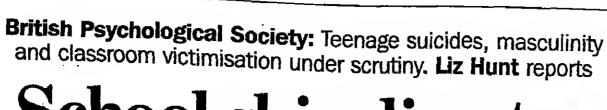
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# School ship disaster survivors in distress

Almost one in 10 teenage survivors of a British school's cruise ship disaster have attempted suicide, and more than half have suffered severe psychological distress in the seven years since the sinking psychologists said yesterday.

Home Secretary

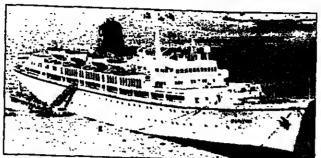
ping out

The survivors, now in their early twenties, are also at least a year behind their peers in their academic studies and fewer of them have gone to university or completed degrees.

Julie Nurrish, a researcher at the Institute of Psychiatry in London, said the findings sug-gest that the low uptake of counselling and support by the survivors following the disaster may be a factor in the persis-

tence and extent of symptoms. The SF Jupiter had just set sail from Piraeus, in Greece. with nearly 400 British schoolchildren, aged 14 to 15, on board when it was rammed by a freighter on 21 October 1988. It rapidly took on water and sank within 40 minutes. Four people died, a pupil and a teacher from Birmingham, and two Greek sailors.

Speaking on the second day of the British Psychological Society annual conference in Brighton yesterday, Ms Nurrish said that the follow-up study of survivors in the intervening seven years had produced some alarming findings. There had been 14 suicide attempts in the group of 168 sur-vivors traced so far (9 per cent),



Traumatic voyage: SF 'Jupitar' sank in 40 minutes

group, indicating that they

should have gone on to university, but many did not.

Team, funded by the Medical

Research Council, also inter-

viewed mothers of survivors.

The Young Adult Research

compared with one in the con-trol group of 58. A survivor had committed suicide in 1993.

Some 52 per cent of survivors had suffered post-traumatic stress disorder, with symptoms including flashbacks of the event, panic attacks, avoidance of water and boats, and distancing from their close family and friends. These symptoms had persisted for more than five years in 14 per cent of the group.

More than two-thirds of the survivors had suffered from depression or other forms of mental illness since the accident.

We did not expect to find this degree of psychological morbidity," Ms Nurrish said. "All were offered counselling hut very few-about 20 per cent - actually took it up. Further research is needed to determine if this was a factor."

There were more survivors with A-levels at the time of the follow-up than in the control

and daughters went away as children and came back adults," Ms Nurrish said.

Overall, the survivors said they could not plan for the future because they knew it could be cut short at any time. Most of them thought they were gong to die during the sinking and it is this feeling that they have

never forgotten, she added. Ms Nurrish said that further analysis of findings from the three year study, to be com-pleted this year, may identify protective affects" in the early lives of some survivors which limited the trauma they suffered. "People do get through events, and why they do is a very important question.



Contemporary design: Beatrice Hosegood, from the auctioneers Bonhams, placing flowers in an earthenware circular vessel by James Tower, which is expected to fetch £2,500-£3,500 when auctioned next week Photograph: Tony Buckingham

### Middle-aged find it tougher to be macho

LIZ HUNT

Men get less macho as they grow older. Those who behave badly in their youth can transform themselves into caring, sharing new men in middle age, a new study has shown.

These males are less likely to view women as sex objects, to favour toughness and the use of force, or disapprove of signs of femininity in other men, the BPS conference heard.

Professor John Archer, an expert on the mysteries of machismo in western culture, said the hurden of jobs, marriage, and children, may be more significant than dimin-ishing testosterone levels in the loss of macho. Less pressure to attract women and to prove to others that you are "hard and

tough" is also a factor.
"A strongly physical mas-culinity is more important at younger ages as a strategy for competing with other men, with the ultimate aim of attracting women," Professor Archer said. "At older ages ... they have less need to be involved in this type

Professor Archer, from the Central Lancashire University. gave a questionnaire on a macho values to 600 men from a wide range of backgrounds. They were aged between 18 and 45 years and living in the North

West of England. The ques-tionnaire measured how much they agreed with statements such as "Wife swapping is fine as long as hoth men agree" ... "There are too many wimps and cowards around today"... aod 'Real men don't back away

from bar-room confrontations. They were also asked how much they agreed with statements such as "It's a good thing for men to cry". Professor Archer found that the older the men, the less they endorsed macho attitudes. "We didn't anticipate this negative rela-

tionship with age," he said. A further analysis of the group found that unemployed and manual workers revealed more macho tendencies, cor-relating with the traditional view of masculinity which is less prevalent in the more educat-ed middle class samples, such as

office workers and students. The scores for sportsmen were lower than expected, but they were largely drawn from the middle classes so that occupation rather than choice of a particularly masculine sport was a determining factor.

The study also revealed a close link between heavy drink-ing and perceptions of mas-culinity. "Heavy drinking ... does provide yet another way for boys to seek to hecome men," Professor Archer added.

# "If Sainsbury's isn't then supermarket, l'He

### 'Mind games' used by school bullies

School bullies who perfect psy-chological techniques of torment can inflict greater long term harm on their victims than those who use more direct physical methods, according to new research, writes Liz Hunt.

David Hawker, a psychologist at Keele University, said the most dangerous type of hullying could be overlooked by

schools and teachers. He told the BPS conference that pupils and teachers worried more about physical bullying and rated psychological bully-ing - such as being shunned by their class-mates - as less serious and upsetting to the victim.

However, a survey of 178 ju-nior (aged 8 to 9) and secondary school children (aged 11 to 12) in six north Staffordshire schools, found that feelings linked to victimisation - depression, anxiety, loneliness, social dissatisfaction and low self-esteem - resulted more

from psychological bullying.
It could involve social exclusion from games, parties and outings, or being sent to Coventry by classmates, and the less serious psychological subordi-

downs, teasing or name-calling. Research suggests that these forms of bullying, particularly social exclusion, appear to have more damaging long-term

Girls were more adept at psychological bullying, through social exclusion of the victim or manipulation, or talking behind someone's hack, for example. They believed physical hullying was more stressful.

Boys preferred the physical approach, and told researchers that social exclusion worried them more. As both groups got older, psychological methods became the bullying technique of choice.

Previous research suggests that 1 in 10 children is bullied at school, about three per class. Mr Hawker, and his colleague Michael Boulton from the De-partment of Psychology at Keele said there was growing awareness of bullying in its different forms in schools.

However, children as young as five appeared to accept bul-lying as a fact of life, and did not helieve it could be stopped by

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### news

# Shephard urges discipline on parents



Shenhard: Sanctions on parents of unruly children

FRAN ABRAMS Education Correspondent

Parents would he forced to ensure that their children go to school and that they behave properly when they get there under legislation announced by Gillian Shephard, the Sec-retary of State for Education, yesterday.

A new package of measures revealed by Mrs Shephard at the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers conference in Glasgow would tighten up many areas of school discipline, she said.

Parents could be told that they might lose their right to choose their children's schools the regulations on exclusions, allowing indefinite suspensions –

Schools could be allowed to exclude children for up to 45 days in any one year, extending the limit from the current 15. They might also be allowed to insist that parents back their discipline policies - at present, they can refuse to allow their children to be kept in detention.

Mrs Shephard also said there would be inspections of all special units for disruptive pupils. Poor reports have been issued on many of the first such units to receive these visits.

She criticised both schools and parents for having abused

now abolished - to drag on too long. Children had been left in

limbo too often, she said. "Good behaviour and discipline in schools are key foundations of good education. Without an orderly atmosphere in the classroom effective teaching and learning cannot take

After a consultation period, legislation could be put forward as soon as this autumn, she said. Teachers have complained that they cannot enforce discipline because parents are often un-cooperative, and that rules on parental choice often force

place," she said.

In future, parental choice could be withdrawn in such cases and instead children could be placed by local authorities in the schools of their choice.

However, Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the union, said that the legislation would need to be backed by resources. He criticised Mrs Shephard for suggesting that schools had been too eager to exclude pupils in the past. The numbers have risen to 15,000 per year.

"If the profession were exclusion-happy we would not have \$5,000. I think we would

these kids in limbo. But I don't want teachers and the majority of children left in hell."

John Dunford, president of the Secondary Heads' Association, said many schools were excluding children because their parents had refused to comply with other sanctions.

"We have to put emphasis on the welfare of other children in the school as well as on the one child who is being disruptive." he said.

■ Meanwhile, Mrs Shephard admitted that not all parents m four pilot areas introducing have more than 150,000 ex- nursery vouchers this spring

them to take pupils who have cluded every year. It's all very had applied to take part. How-heen excluded elsewhere. well to say that we can't leave ever, she said, Norfolk had 25 new nursery units and 400 private providers wanting to offer places. In Wandsworth, southwest London, 76 per cent of par-ents had applied for vouchers and in Norfolk 87 per cent had

> Mrs Shephard was also called upon to defend the school inspection system, which has been criticised by teachers this week for being bureaucratic.

"I regard the inspection process as one of the most important of the Government reforms. Let me say very clearly: it is here to stay," Mrs Shephard

### Killer used skills learnt in abattoir

A former slaughterman who used his professional skill to kill his neighbour, disembowel and then hack her body in half, was ordered to be held at Rampton psychiatric hospital by an Old

Bailey judge yesterday.

Jason Baldwin, 28, was sent there for further medical reports hefore sentencing after admitting the manslaughter of Maxine Boot, 37, on the grounds of diminished responsibility. The prosecution accepted his plea of

not guilty to murdering her. Baldwin - described as a psychotic loner with bizarre fixations - had taken an irrational dislike to the burger bar waitress who had a bed-sit in the block where he lived in Guildford, Surrey.

When they were alone in the premises on 10 March last year, he attacked her with a hatchet, sheath knife and pruning saw.

"It was a savage killing. She had severe head injuries and her throat was cut. She was then disembowelled with considerable professional skill in the course of the gruesome exercise after her death," Robert Seabrook

QC, for the prosecution, said. Baldwin then cut Miss Boot's body in half through the lower torso using the pruning saw to sever her spine. He had been sacked from his job at a local abattoir after attacking a workmate earlier in the year, causing him grievous bodily harm. He became a dustman and made use of the black refuse sacks to wrap his victim's body before throwing it into a near by pond, where police recovered the remains five days later.

The two halves of the body had been stuffed into him hags bearing the initials of Guildford Borough Council and the number 28 printed on them. It was Baldwin's dustbin round number, and one with which he had

a "bizarre fixation". From medical reports which described him as suffering from an extremely mixed personality disorder which suggested psychosis - Baldwin ap-

### **Keyhole surgery** 'takes longer and costs more'

**NICHOLAS TIMMINS** Public Policy Editor

Hi-tech keyhole surgery to remove the gall hladder - an operation widely adopted by surgeons because of its "obvious advantages" - takes longer to do and offers no advantages over more conventional surgery, a hospital study has shown.

The finding yesterday led to calls in the medical journal The Luncer for more such studies into the effectiveness of surgicai techniques,

New ones are frequently adopted without trials to prove mey are superior to existing op-erations. Without more studies. the journal argues, surgeons will continue to face the charge that up to half their research is of questionable value.

The study at the Royal Haltamshire Hospital in Sheffield was rare for being a randomised controlled trial - the standard way to assess new drugs. Two hundred patients were allocated at random to a small incision operation or the keyhole technique, and the assessment of the outcome was hidden by providing dressings which masked the nature of the surgical scar,

recovery, hospital stay, time to get back to work and full

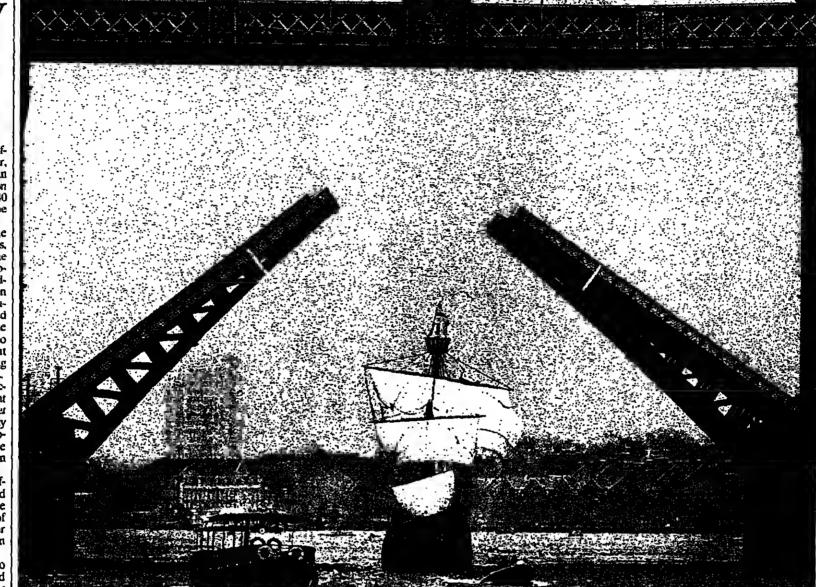
activity, the keybole method offered no advantage. However, the operation took more than half as long again to perform on average - 65 minutes against 40 minutes - and is likely to be more expensive.

Gall hladder removal is one of the commonest operations, and surgeons have adopted the new technique because it appeared to have "obvious advantages" which have not been proved in practice, Mr Ali Maeed, the surgeon who headed the study, said. That may, he suggested, have had much to do with manufacturers' investment in the instruments and imaging systems needed to perform it.

Such randomised studies account for less than 10 per cent of surgical research. The Lancet said, surgeons preferring simply to report a series of cases, an ap-proach which tends to provide a more subjective comparison to existing methods.

The Lancer acknowledged difficulties in designing controlled trials for surgery, but a separate report showing the efficacy of a new Japanese operation for stomach cancer shows random studies can be done.

Surgeons must find ways to to plan randomised trials, The Lancet's editor, Dr Richard



Passing through: A replica of the 15th-century ship Matthew, in which the explorer John Cabot left Bristol heading for Japan but found North America instead, sailing through Tower Bridge, London, during trials before a voyage to mark the 500th anniversary of the journey

Photograph: Nicholas Turpin

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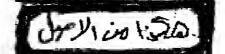
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Get a half price Joypad for £9.99 when you buy any Sony PlayStation game at Woolworths. Hurry, offer ends 29th May 1996.



Death of seven-year-old pilot: World condemns 'exploitative' record trip that led to disaster

# Air chiefs to review flying by children



Family support: Lisa Hathaway, pilot Jessica Dubroff's mother, with her other daughter, Jasmine, three

### TIM CORNWELL Los Angeles

A note placed at the crasb site yesterday where Jessica Dubroff was killed read "God's newest little angel". But world reaction to the death of the seven-yearold girl trying to become the youngest pilot to fly across America was more angry than sympathetic.

While Jessica's mother asked people to "let children fly if they want to fly", the US Federal Aviation Administration promised to review rules covering un-

derage and unlicensed pilots. American flying experts called the flight an irresponsi-ble, exploitative adventure. "Dead for a record" proclaimed the Swiss daily Le Matin. Australian radio news called it a "publicity stunt that ended in a

"I feel that there is no place in aviation for such foolishness as this type of flight," was one comment on CompuServe's on-

line aviation forum.

shortly after take-off in a residential street in Cheyenne. Wyoming, early on Thursday. Her instructor Joe Reid and her father, Lloyd, who was in the back of the four-seater aircraft. died with her.

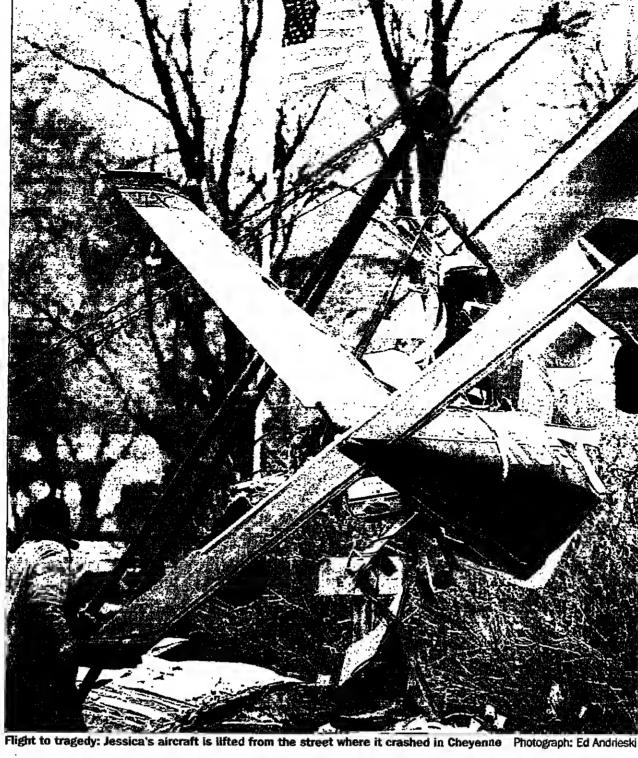
Clearly I would want all my children to die in a state of joy, said ber mother Lisa Hathaway. "I would prefer it was not at age seven, but, God, she went with her joy and her passion, and ber life was in her hands."

The girl from a small northern California town, with curls, a wistful look in ber eye and a hlue baseball cap with the logo "Women Fly", was the picture of American girlhood.

Jessica was reported as a passionate reader of biographies of Amelia Earhart, the pioneer pilot who disappeared on a trans-pacific flight and is still one of America's favourite

romantic heroines.

Like the Apollo 13 space mission, ber flight bad attracted only passing attention until
I dessica, who needed a booster chair to see out of the wind-



and television shows. "I cared deeply for this bttle girl," said the mayor of Cheyenne, Leo Pando, breaking down in tears with memories of bis own daughter who was drowned in a flood at 16. "She had a refreshing optimism that is plainly lacking in today's world."

Jessica's aircraft crashed face dominated newspapers screen and aluminium exten- clearly at the controls when the

sions to reach the pedals, would have struggled to exert the 60lbs of pressure that the FAA generally assumes a pilot can put on controls. She was not legally flying the four-seater Cessna but at present children of any age may take control under supervision if a pilot deems it safe.

Bystanders said Jessica was

aircraft took off in driving rain by Daniel Shankin in 1991, just at an airport 6,000ft high, where a month older than Jessica, thinner air meant its engines had substantially less power. The temperature at was also near freezing. She had only four months experience in the cockpit and was on the second leg of ber planned 6,500 mlle round trip.

The unofficial record for trans-continental flights was set an eight, then a seven."

and an eight-year-old made the flight last year. "It's the American way," said Drew Steketee, of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, which like

other industry groups has been nervous about such events. "If an 11-year-old does it, a 10's going to do it, then a nine, then

### IN BRIEF

### Britain attacks Gibraltar customs checks

London - The Foreign Office Minister, David Davis, said yesterday that there was "no justification" for Spain's introduction of extra customs checks on the border with Gibraltar, writes Christopher Bellamy. The checks were introduced following the loss of a Spanish belicopter in pursuit of a drug smugglers' boat on Thursday. In a strongly worded statement, Mr Davis said drug smuggling in the area took place at sea and there there was "no evidence that drugs cross the land frontier". He added: "If Spain has any constructive proposals for further co-operation, we will of course consider them carefully."

China roots out military pen pal menace Peking — The discipline and ideological purity of China's army is being contaminated by soldiers' pen pals, the Liberation Army Daily warned. "Some soldiers become bored and dissatisfied and Daily warned. "Some soldiers become porcu and discrime." the hlindly think that the outside world is exciting." the Reuter

### Kantor to replace Brown

Washington — The US Trade Representative, Mickey Kantor, (right) is President Clinton's choice to replace Ron Brown as Commerce secretary. Mr Kantor has a reputation as a tough advocate of US trade interests abroad. Mr Brown was killed when his plane crashed in Croatia while he was on a Balkan tour. The news came as Mr Clinton and Mr Kantor were promoting efforts by the trade representative's office to lower the trade deficit with Japan.



### Florida bomb kills woman

Plantation, Florida - A woman was killed and three children were injured when a package exploded just after it was delivered to a home in an affluent neighbourhood. A child took the package inside and it exploded when it was opened. The woman was dead and a 13-year-old boy, 10-year-old girl and 7-year-old boy were injured. The US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms sent an investigator to the scene.

**Jackal targeted French minister** 

Paris - The international guerrilla "Carlos the Jackal" considered attacking the then-Socialist justice minister Robert Badinter in the 1980s, Le Monde reported yesterday. The late Francois de Grossouvre, a close aide to the late president Francois Mitterrand, was another possible target.

US turns Okinawa airport over to locals Tokyo - Setting the stage for a visit next week by President Clin-

ton, the US has agreed to return a large airfield on Okinawa to local landowners over the next five to seven years. Sentiment against the American bases have been running high since three US servicemen raped a schoolgirl last September.

AP

Sri Lanka foils seaborne Tamil attack

Colombo — Naval gunboats destroyed two Tamil rebel fishing trawlers laden with explosives, one inside Colombo's busy harbor and one approaching it. Both trawlers exploded when the gun-boats opened fire. Sailors said they believe at least five rebels were killed, including two frogmen carrying explosives.

HK 'heads for rosy future' under China

Hong Kong - The Chinese official in charge of Hong Kong affairs painted a rosy picture of events after the colony's return to China next year. "Hong Kong will still be a free port, an international finance and trade centre. Hong Kong's future will be even better," Lu Ping, director of Beijing's Hong Kong and Macan Affairs Office, told a business conference. Reuter

King asks Aznar to form government

Madrid - Spain's King Juan Carlos formally asked conservative leader Jose Maria Aznar to form a government on the hasis of his slim win in an election last month.

How to cash a cheque.



When expecting a cheque in the post, some blind people ask the sender to attach it to a piece of textured paper, like kitchen roll, so that it is not confused with a compliment slip, or thrown away by mistake.

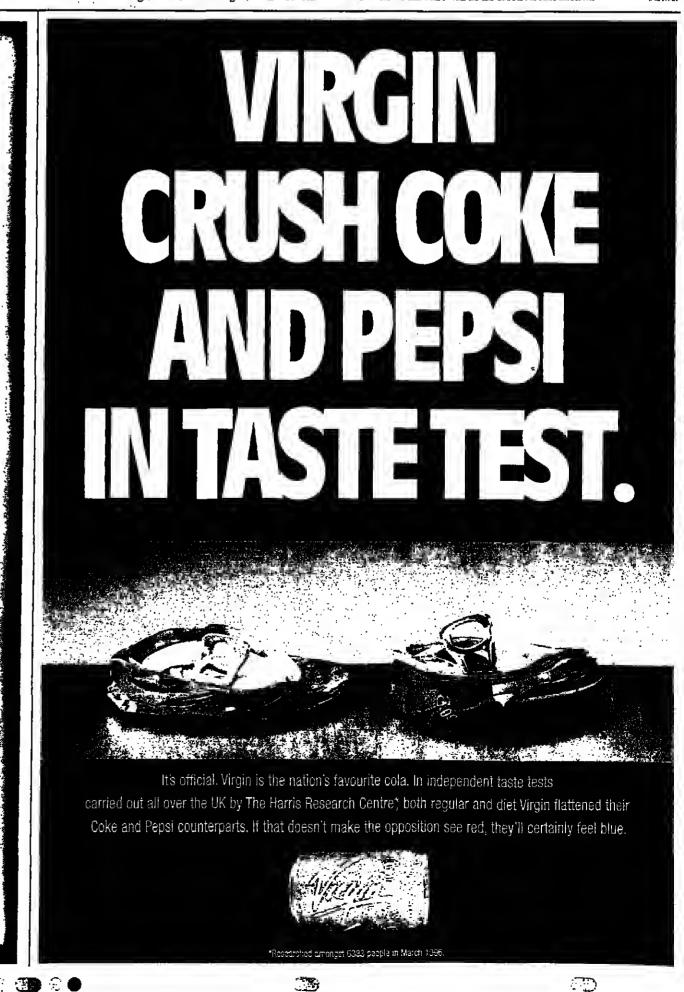
It's a simple solution to one of the frustrating problems that arise when blind people are sent information they cannot read. The Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) is campaigning for visually impaired people to have access to essential information like bank statements and phone bills in 'readable' forms. We convert printed items from bus

timetables and washing instructions to knitting patterns and recipes. RNIB's work is especially important if you consider that many visually impaired people live alone. For more details about RNIB call us on 0345 023040.



Royal National Institute for the Blind





### international

War in Lebanon: New Katyusha attacks and renewed aerial bombardment escalate crisis, as refugees stream north from Tyre

# Peres warns as rockets strike Israeli town

PATRICK COCKBURN Kiryat Shmona

The Katyusha rockets which fell on the Israeli border town of Kirvat Shmona early yesterday morning led to an immediate escalation in the crisis in Lebanon. Within hours Israel was threatening to bomhard 41 Lebanese villages just north of the Israeli occupation zone inside Lebanon.

We recommend that all peopte living in areas from which Katyushas were launched at Israeli villages now leave," said Lieutenant General Amnon Lipkin-Sbahak, the Israeli chief

Sitting heside him in the mess hall of an Israeli military base a few miles from the border, Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, added: - If they thought that the Katyusha is a superior weapon then we will have to remind them that we have missiles that are better." He said that il Hizbollah, the Lebancse guerrilla movement, thought that Kiryat Shmona was an inviting target and a point of Israeli weakness, then they would discover that the same was true of Beirut.

The deadline for Lebanese villagers to flee was first given at 2.30pm and later extended by two bours. United Nations officers in south Lebanon estimated that Israeli artillery had fired 2.000 shells during the first part of the day, presumably directed at areas outside the 41 villages. It became clear during the morning that an early casualty of the mounting crisis was the understanding, brokered by the US in 1993, under which Israel and Hizbollah pledged to avoid hitting civilian targets.

Overnight Hizbollah had not retaliated for Israeli air raids on Beirut, Baalbek and Tyre the previous day. It seemed possi-ble that they would wait before counter-attacking. Then, shortly ed beside a moving car, ex-ploding its petrol tank and badly burning the woman driver.

A second Katyusha landed beside a eucalyptus tree, severing branches and peppering houses on both sides of the road with shrapnel. A shard of the rocket narrowly missed the head of Yitzhak Michaely, a factory worker, who was drinking

only saved because be took cover when he heard one rocket explode in the distance, a few seconds before a second blew up across the street.

Mr Michaely had no doubts about what the government should do. "They should go into Lehanon and give them a few good hits." He said there were only 7,000 people left in town. His neighbour Ilan Petto, a

disc jockey, said: "After Peace for Galilee | the Israeli invasion of Lehanon in 1982] there was peace bere." This is not strictly true - and the invasion created Hizbollah - hut Mr Petto still believes "if we are tough with them, they will stop". Nobody had any doubts that

the new Lebanese crisis will help the right-wing Likud party. Haim Corlikr, 20. said: Every-body will vote Likud here. Peres talks and doesn't do anything." Kiryat Shmona is a right-wing

town, but this is bad news for Mr Peres 50 days before the Is-raeli election. When Binyamin Netanyahu, the Likud leader and his rival to be Prime Minister visited Kirvat Shmona earlier in the week he was cheered. The new Likud sticker "Peace with Security" is common in the back windows of cars.

after 9am, at least two Katyusba

Mr Peres has done his best to use of force rockets landed in Kiryat avoid military retaliation in lah to heel.

Shmona, a nondescript town of 23,000 people. One rocket landin a close selection race became supportable. He cannot afford to look weak or irresolute. He is only just beginning to recov-er from the political damage caused by the four suicide bombs which killed 62 people in Israel in February and March. The casualties and damage inflicted on Northern Israel

this week is slight but they

could lose Mr Peres the election.

Aviv.

Aviv.

I feel so bad," said Mr
Michaely, still looking shaken as he pointed to a hole in the wall at head height. He said he was only saved here.

Aviv.

Minister and his Chief of Staff were in Kiryat Shmona within hours of yesterday's Katyusha attack. "What bappened this morning did not surprise morning did not be allowed to rebuild its economy in peace if Hizbollab attacks continued. He said: "This is an operation against Hizbollab and not Syria." Given that Mr Peres and General Shahak bave a soft spoken style it was not immediately apparent that they were outlining a military operation in Lebanon as great as that in 1993 which left over 100 Lebanese dead. Air raids on Beirut were the first since the 1982-84 Israeli invasion.

> mixture of a political leader visiting the front line and an election campaign. Much of the local population had moved south and soldiers with loud speakers were telling those who remained to get into bomb shelters, one of which was visited by the Prime Minister. When he stopped briefly by the burned out car, so completely incinerated that it was impossible to discover its original colour, he was heckled. One man sboutcd: "Peres, we want war," Another said: "Let [Gen-

The visit by Mr Peres was a

Remarkably, against all the evidence of previous Israeli ac-tions in Lebanon, nobody seemed to doubt that massive use of force would bring Hizbol-

eral Ariel] Sharon take care of



Fire power: An Israell 155m artillery piece in northern Israel fires into Lebanon

### West fears harm to peace process

Agencies — Britain joined the United States and France in calling for restraint and condemned Hizbollah cross-border attacks which sparked the raids. Arab states attacked Israel, calling for an end to its

The White House urged Hizbollah to defuse escalating tensions in Lebanon and Israel. There have been a number of actions by Hizbollah, which is making it very difficult to restore calm and stability in north Israel and south Lebanon, White House press secretary Mike McCurry said.

"We believe that the best thing that could happen is for the violence to subside and it's quite clear that the best way for that to bappen is for the uncessary provocations by Hizbol-

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A Foreign Office spokesman London said: "Pursuit of the peace process remains the priority and we know that Israel will gauge carefully its response and do all it can to avoid civilian casualties. When the peace process offers a non-violent way forward there can be absolutely no justification for Hizbollah actions."

To achieve a "just and lasting peace", France urged the application of United Nations resolution 425 which calls on Israel to leave southern Lebanon, for Lebanon to reassert sovereignty over its territory and for security to be restored to the border area between Israel and Lebanon. This was the message President Jacques Chriac took on his recent visit to southern Lebanon.

The Arab League condemned Israel's attacks and pledged its support for all measures taken by Lebanon to defend itself, "While condemning these aggressive practices that contradict international laws and norms, the Arab League expresses its absolute unity with the bravery of the Lebanese people," a

# Kons







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### Familiar exodus of fear in a world that has gone mad

ROBERT FISK

sands, the people of southern Lebanon, whey faced with fear, many of the women in tears, crammed with aunts and chil-dren into old family cars with bedding on the roof and cooking utensils in the boot and blankets dangling from the windows. Israeli radio had given them just three hours to leave home or take the consequences, ordering the inhabitants of 32 villages on to the roads north before Isracl's next blitz against the

The Israelis had left it to their proxy "South Lebanon Army" militia to make the darker threats. "He who forewarns is excused," the SLA's Voice of the South radio announcer said at midday. There would be no consciences among those who opened fire after giv-ing so clear a warning. At 2.30 pm the bombardment would begin, the radio said. Then it was postponed for two hours. And the thousands of Lebanese, trapped in endless jams of traffic on the narrow coastal road.

sat sweating in their vehicles as

the wbisper of jets moved through the sky above them.

The highway was familiar.

Could see them shaking their beads in disbelief.

Already the Iqlim al-They left in their tens of thou- I had driven through refugees

down this same road in 1978 when the Israelis invaded Lebanon to "destroy terrorism". I had travelled past the refugees on the highway in 1982 when Israel again invad-ed to "destroy terrorism". In 1993, I had headed south past 300,000 refugees when the Is-raelis opened a bombardment of southern Lehanon to "destruy terrorism". Now here I was again, driving on to the pavement to pass the fearful refugees moving north in the other direction as Israel opened a new onslaught to "destroy terrorism". Had the world gone

Some of the refugees - the same in many cases, no doubt, as those who had fled past me in previous years - seemed to think so. In every car, a radio was clasped to the driver's ear: they knew all about the Hizbol-lah's Katyusha attack on the Is-raeli town of Kiryat Shmona yesterday morning - itself re-taliation for Israel's Thursday bombardment of Beirut - and they knew what to expect. You

Kharoub was under fire and the hills around Nabatea. An Israeli jet was reported to bave fired missile into a town near Arnoun. And so the villages of the south, many of them old enough to appear in the annals of the Crusaders - Tibnin, Kafra, Yater, Bradchit, Khirbet Silm. Majd cl-Silm, Haris - were depopulated.

Crossing south across the Litani river. I found the road al-

most empty. There were a fcw last refugees hobbling on foot. begging for lifts north, a clutch of Lebanese soldiers in their new American helmets - looking for all the world like US Marines in Bosnia - sitting on their armoured vehicles, staring skywards all the time, trying to catch sight of the insect-like jets as they flitted through the firmament: then the long Roman highway to Tyre, as empty as a railway track, ominously surveyed by a distant Israeli beli-

The city of Tyre was desert-cd, shuttered, the sea breeze banging unattended soutters, the United Nations flag snappeace-keeping force on the sea

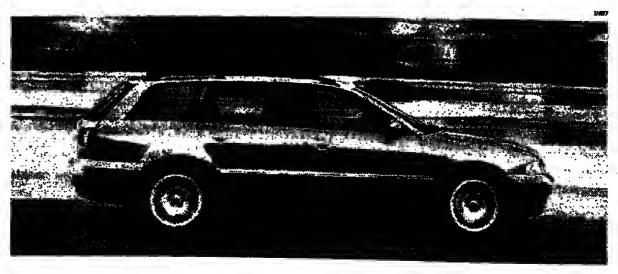
And inside, sheltering in a UN tent, I found one of southern Lebanon's saddest refugees. Mohamed Mera was 67 and had left his village of Kafra for Tyre to send his family of ten to Beirut for safety. Now be wanted to go back to his abandoned village, to die if necessary. But no one would offer him

raeli bombardment of 1993 and was prepared to end my life there," he said. "Why should I leave now? Home is a good place to die." And who did be hlame for

a lift. "I stayed home in the Is-

his predicament. I asked him. The prematurely old man with bis white woollen cap and unshaven cheeks pointed his finger in the air. "What you know, I know," he said.

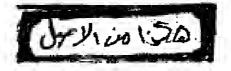
"All of us know. If it were up to us, there would be no war here. But the world is not in our bands." I did not have the beart to tell him what I just heard on my car radio: that the Israelis had just bombed the southern suburbs of Beirut - the very sanctuary to which he had sent his family.



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### internationa

# Communists decry Yeltsin's media circus

Moscow

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His critics say he bends with the wind, that he has no real convictions. But there is ooe issue about which Gennady Zyuganov, Russia's Communisi leader, is consistent as he campaigns across the huge country that he would so love to rule: he thinks that much of the Russian media is out to get him.

With just over two months to go before the presidential election, Mr Zyuganov has seen his once commanding lead in the polls shrink to single figures. There is, he claimed yesterday. a powerful machinery op-posing him. It has even produced a pile of official documents outlining the best way of crushing his presidential challenge, he said.

And be believes one of the main weapons against him is the Kremlin's ability to manipulate the press. This week he spelt out this grievance in an attack on the state-controlled Rossiskaya Gazeta after it refused to publish his party's pre-election pro-

a president," he complained. and yet the government newspaper does not familiarise its

readers with all the materials." Mr Zyuganov, it must be said, has a case. One reason for Boris Yeltsin's improving fortunes - polls place him between four and nine points behind the Communist leader - is the extensive television coverage of the President's activities.

This is hardly surprising. Russia's two top television stations, ORT and Russian Television (RTR), are state-controlled. In February, their executives were given a harsh object lesson about the perils of displeasing the Kremlin, when Mr Yeltsin sacked the head of RTR. Oleg Poptsov, accusing him of mis-

reporting the war in Chechnya. A third big network, NTV, has long had a reputation for challenging the Yeltsin administration, an independence of spirit that resulted io several angry clashes with the authorities. Last year, for example, the Procurator General launched a criminal investigation into a NTV reporter who interviewed the Chechen rebel commander





Hard sell: Messrs Yeltsin (left) and Zyuganov and the spin doctor Sir Tim Bell (right), who has reportedly been advising tha Presidant

Shamil Basayev, There was a row over a widely ridiculed attempt by prosecutors to bring a case against Kukh; an irreverent Spitting Image-type programme - an ili-judged plan that was eventually abandoned. Yet

Mr Yeltsin has softened markediy.

Critics have attributed this to the fact that NTV's president. lgor Malashenko, has not only declared support for the President but also heads the infor-

re-election campaign. Malashenko is reportedly being advised by Sir Tim Bell, Baroness Thatcher's former Yeltsin's wife, Naina. In a glowing prime-time interview, she ex-tolled her husband's qualities, spin-doctor, though Sir Tim which included being a dab has refused to comment. Sir hand at cooking Siherian Tim is said to have been the in-

pearance on NTV of Mr nies are on the President's side, so too are many of the newspapers - not least because many of them rely on government subsidies to survive. Although the Communists can rely on support from three opposition papers and Zavira), they are under fire from the majority of the othe major players, including the mass-circulation Argumenti

Fakty, and Izvestia.

However, Mr Zyuganov' complaints about unfair reporting would carry morweight among ooo-Communis voters if his own views on pres freedom were more liberal. H. recently said he did not believe criticism of the Soviet Union should necessarily he protected as free speech. "We are for ful freedom of expression hut w. want the journalists to be guid ed by law. I do not think that i is an instance of freedom of ex pression when those who cal themselves democrats ... lay the red Soviet flag out like a doo mat, and wipe their feet on it.

Fears about his views were emphasised yesterday by the Fund for Protection of Glasnost a civil-rights group set up to protect press freedom. If M Zyuganov wins power, it would close within six months, said it chairman. Alexei Simonov The idea of Communist heav on cannot be combined with the freedom of the press."

### Safety 'must be priority for nuclear power'

ADRIAN BRIDGE

Central Europe Correspondent

Germany's environment minister, Angela Merkel, yesterday appealed for higher safety standards in the nuclear power industry but stopped well short of calling for the immediate closure of the most dangerous reactors still in operation in the former Soviet Union and east-

ern Europe.
Winding up a four-day conference coinciding with the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster, Ms Merkel said that, despite that catastrophe, the nuclear power industry still had a future - but only if safety was made the top priority. Her sentiments were shared

by the more than 700 politicians and scientists from East and West attending the conference in Vienna, although many would have liked her to have gone much further.

Many had hoped for an unequivocal call for the shutdown of the 15 Chernobyl-type reactors still in operation in Russia. Ukraine and Lithuania. For their part, environmentalists would have welcomed a rejection of the whole idea of nuclear

power technology. 'As far as we are concerned, there is never any justification for nuclear energy," said Radko Pawlowitz of the Vienna-based by group. "The Chernobyl-type reactors should be closed down without any doubt and if we really want to reduce risks altogether we should return to more conventional types of power station."

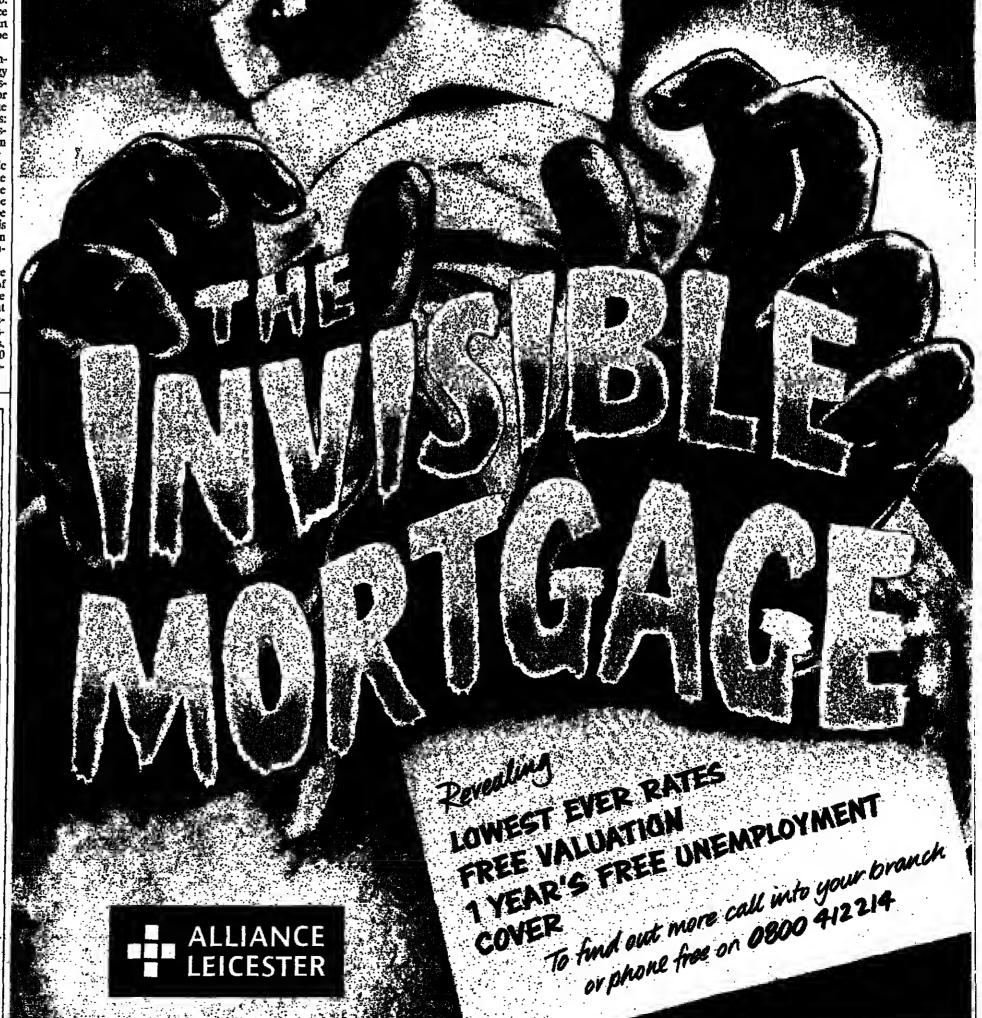
Despite improvements made to the 15 Chernobyl-style RBMK reactors since 1986. many experts at the conference expressed doubts about whether they could now be considered safe.

A report prepared by the In-ternational Atomic Energy Agency, one of the co-organisers of the conference, called for the further upgrading of the plants to Western safety levels: the cost of which has been estimated at between \$150m (£100m)-\$200m per unit.

Giveo the current ecocomic difficulties of Russia, Ukraine and Lithuania, funding for the work can come only from the West, leaders of whom will be gathering in Moscow later this month for a Group of Seven richest nations summit on nuclear issues.

Delegates in Vienna were also divided over the legacy of Chernohyl. Claims hy the Ukrainian health ministry that 125,000 people had died as a result of the disaster were disputed by Western specialists, who claimed that fewer than 100 deaths could be directly attrib-Global 2000 environmental lob- uted to what had happened.





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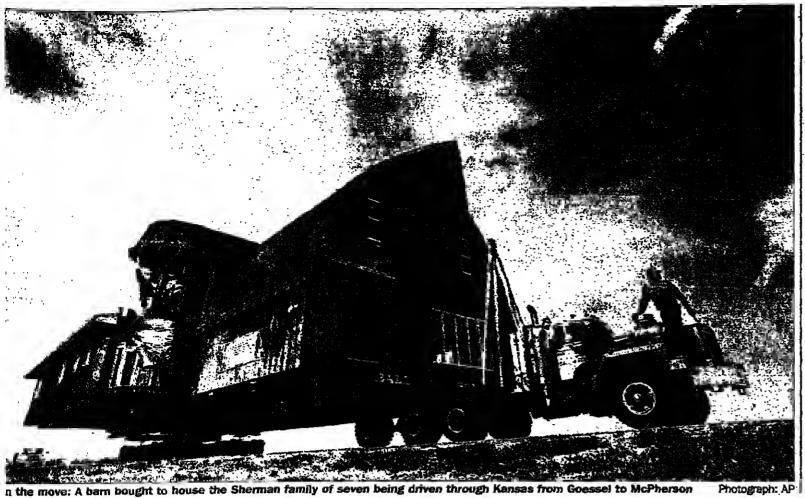
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### international



# Family reunion spells trouble for India's PM

New Delhi — At the height of the feud between the queen mother of Gwalior and her son, they lived walled off from each other in a colossal palace, which rises above the plains of central India, and never spoke. They inhabited rival political realms, too. She is a Hindu revivalist, while her son. Madhaviao, belonged to the secular Congress party. As the queen mother once remarked witheringly: "I should have let elephants trample on him when he

The rift in the royal house of Gwalior has been one of the most captivating and loogest-running sagas in Indian politics. Mother and soo traded accu-Photograph: AP sations of stealing family heirAfter 20 years' feuding, a mother and son are campaigning against Rao's government, writes Tim McGirk

to keep each other away from the Persian rugs, the Belgian glass baubles and the Louis XVI furniture. Both are MPs; oeither the son nor the mother lost a chance in parliament to sling insults at one other.

However, the Gwaliors' dynastic quarrel may finally have ended. The mother and son's re-union, however, is bad oews for Narasimha Rao, the Prime Minister and Congress party leader, who inadvertently got the two back together again. The royal pair could harm Mr Rao's hopes of a Coogress victory in Madhya Pradesh in the

upcoming geoeral elections.
The wily Prime Minister had gambled on revenge being a stronger trait among the Scindia warrior dynasty than forgiveness. He gambled wrong. In February, Mr Rao orchestrated a corruption scandal that tarred all of his leading challengers – both among the opposition leaders and inside Congress. Ur-hane, aristocratic and rich, Mr Scindia was seen by 74-year-old Mr Rao as a rising threat. Mr Scindia, along with several other cabinet ministers, was forced by the premier to resign for allegedly having accepted black money. He was also denied an election ticket.

Instead of glowering in his Gwalior citadel, Mr Scindia chose to fight against Mr Rao's manoeuvrings. He launched a new party, the Madhya Pradesh Vikas Congress, on Monday and weot oo the campaign trail inside his ancestors' Gwalior kingdom, which at its peak en-compassed 25,000 square miles. Although India's princes and nawabs were stripped of their titles, land and power after independence, Mr Scindia everywhere is given a maharajah's is virtually deserted, according greetiog: people how and to newspaper reports.

The queeo mother was gladdeoed by her son's revolt against Coogress. "Mothers have traditionally forgiveo errant sons," said the tiny hut haughty Raj Mata. Besides, she said, "The Scindia name has state of Madhya Pradesh with heen dishonoured [by the premier) and we must fight."

The family feud dated hack to 1977 when the then premier, Indira Gandhi, assumed dictatorial powers and jailed the Raj Mata along with hundreds of other politicians and jour-

tooms. They padlocked doors in their 150-room Jail Vilas palace to keep each other away from the Policy of the Pol she was released in 1980, the Raj Mara vowed to cootest Mrs Gandhi's parliamentary seat. As one family friend explained: "Madhavrao knew that Mrs Gandhi was very vindictive.
She could have made a lot of trouble for the Scindias, confiscating their wealth and land and putting them all hack in jail.

To the queen mother's shame and dismay, her son joined the Congress party. He befriended Indira Gandhi eveo though she had tried to destroy his mother. It was around then that the Raj Mata said she wished her soo had been trampled at birth hy elephants.

Mr Scindia's mother is a



Rao: Unintentionally reunited Scindia family

leader in the right-wing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party, and the BJP has oow withdrawn its candidate for the Gwalior seat. Many of the state's Congress party leaders have snubbed the Prime Minister and are also pledging support for Mr Scindia. In Gwalior, the Congress party headquarters

ginning oo 27 April (2 and 7 May are also polling days), the Congress party's chaoces of winning a majority in parliament are looking dimmer. Not only is Mr Rao bound to lose the key the Gwalior royals fighting against him, but Congress strategists privately admit that the party is likely to suffer de-feat in the Ganges plains of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar as well as in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

# Fresh fighting speeds exodus from Liberia

NYENATI ALLISON Associated Press

Monrovia — Government troops, rebels and thieves exchanged heavy weapons fire on the streets of Liberia's seaside capital yesterday, speed-ing the country's descent into

The United Nations announced it would attempt to get nearly 100 of its workers out of the capital hy boat. A US spokesman said a British merchant ship was offshore and would soon jain the military operations.

Government troops resumed shelling of the military bar-racks where thousands of supporters of the warlord Roosevelt Johnson are hoted up. Large explusions were heard throughout the city.

Witnesses said two children were killed and 17 people were wounded by mortar fire at the barracks yesterday mnrning. Overnight shelling killed seven people in a barracks church. Government troops - many

of whom are former rebels brought into the military when a peace accord was reached last year - were reported ransacking and taking over houses.

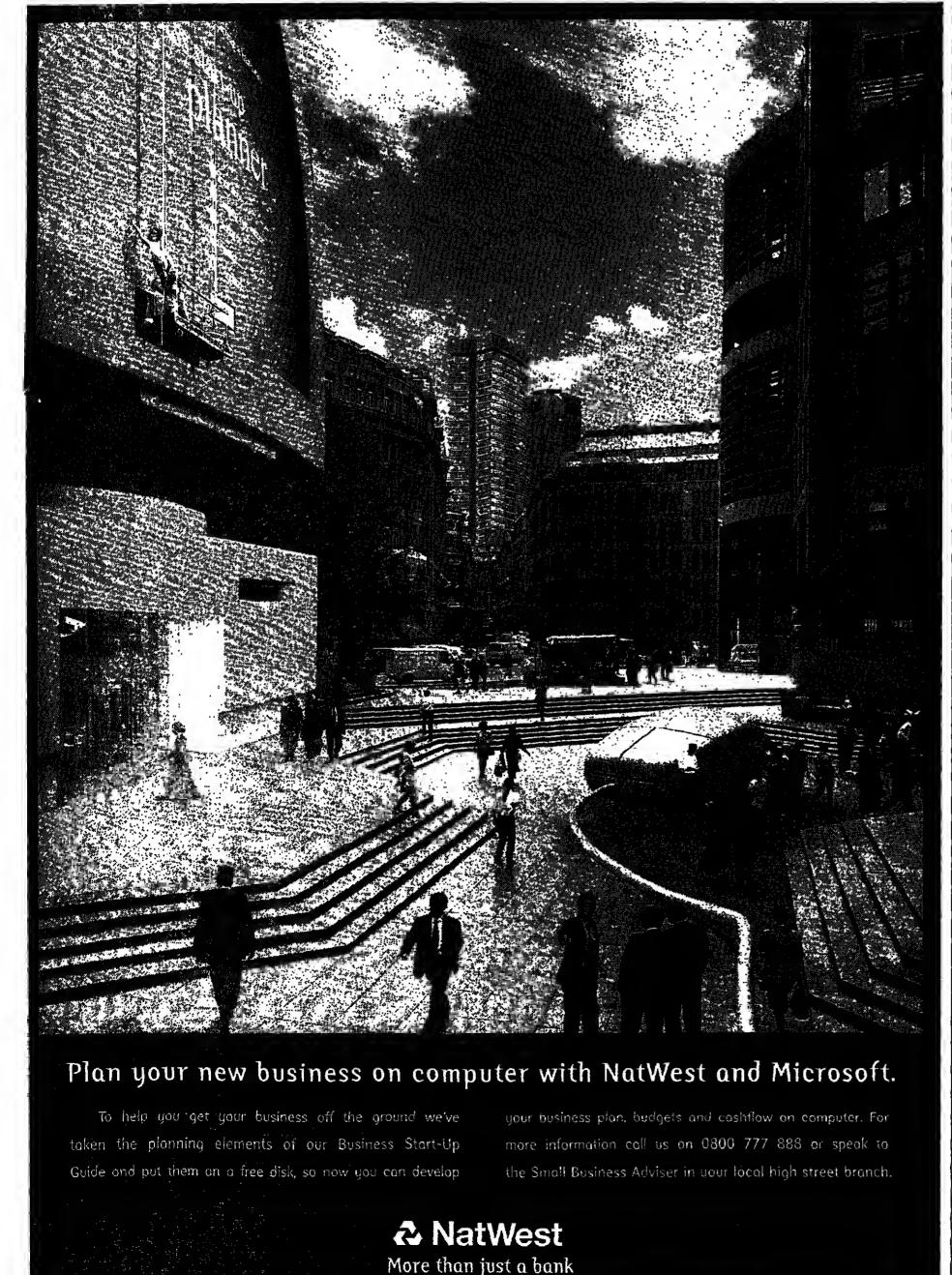
your bathroom," said Martha hospital who fled to the Mamba Point Hotel, where 500

people were holed up.
More than 900 people had heen evacuated by US military helicopters by yesterday morning, after a day of looting and fighting between rival rebels and peace-keepers who appeared to join in the looting on Thursday. Up to 20,000 people, including foreign diplomats, mission-aries and Liberians, have sought refuge in the embassy com-pound and UN offices since

rebels and government troops last Saturday. A spokesman for the peacekeeping troops said the Ghana-ian President, Jerry Rawlings, had arrived with a diplomatic delegation from members of the Ecocomic Community of West African States to help mediate

"Lord, please help us out of this madness," said Maima Jones, a housewife, "Your children are dying."





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fighting brake nut between

a potential ceasefire The violence has taken its toll on Monrovia. Food and medicine are scarce and residents are desperate.

Quebec

language

police go

for the

matzohs

They're calling it "Matzobgat.". after over-zealous Quebec language police swooped oo Jew-ish delicatessens this week and ordered religious speciality

foods, some of which had been

imported for the Passover, to be

takeo off the shelves because

they did not have French labels.

the Office de la Langue Franç-

aise has provoked an outcry from Quebec's 100,000 strong

Jewish community and moder-

ate Francophone Quebecers

who fear a sabotage of premier

Lucien Bouchard's recent over-

tures to the province's English

and immigrant communities.

Although Quebec and Cana-

dian laws require all consumer goods to be labelled in both English and French, officials have traditionally ignored the

Kosher matzoh balls, farfeh

and gefilte fish imported from

the US for Jewish holidays.

The Canadian market is not big

enough to justify production of

the kosher specialties locally and

The move by inspectors from

**HUGH WINSOR** 

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# EU puts budget powers on agenda

SARAH HELM

Radical new plans which could open the way for a common European fiscal policy will be discussed today by European finance ministers as part of a oew drive to create a single curreocy.

The plans, which would effectively subject national budget planning to greater joint EU decisioo-making, are certain to fuel British fears that the single currency would undermine sovereignty. The arm is to make EU countries inside and outside monetary unioo keep their spending under control, so that the single currency remains sta-

ble and keeps its value. Yves Thibault de Silguy, the EU commissioner for monetary affairs, said the intention of the programme is to make countries meet the economic conver-



Yves-Thibault de Silguy: Peer group pressure

gence rules set out in the Maastricht treaty. He spoke as finance ministers gathered for an informal meeting in Verona.

Mr de Silguy outlined a system under which finance ministers might in future have to submit their taxing and public spending plans to their European partners for agreement, sbould their economies appear to be running into trouble. If the plans were not deemed to be tough enough to keep the national budget in line, the EU council might propose alternatives. In effect, he said the council would become a "coun-

cil of stability".
"It would be up to the council to evaluate progress," said the commissioner. Mr de Silguy spoke of the need for "peer group pressure" to keep countries on the right track. One set of stricter new rules

would be drawn up for countries seeking to meet the Maastricht rules in order to qualify for monetary union, and another set would be drawn up for those

countries already inside EMU. Rules for economic coovergence already exist under the treaty, which also includes provision for sanctions. But Mr de Silguy suggested yesterday that support was now growing for a far tighter programme of "auiomatic" rules and peoalties to encourage all countries to keep to the rules, particularly on

Mr de Silguy spoke of a new "stability programme". The programme, he said, would involve "auto-correctional" budgetary measures. He also floated the idea of a new "multilateral surveillance system" for EU economies which might be operated by the European ommission

budget deficits.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, was already expecting to do battle in Verona over EU moves to encourage Britain to join a new exchange rate mechanism in the run up to monetary union. As news of the new stability programme" emerged it seemed certain that Mr Clarke will now have to defend another flank, with national powers over fiscal and monetary matters both under assault.

Signs that the EU might be moving towards developing a common fiscal policy bave been slowly emerging in recent months. There has been growing concern about how to bring countries into line in the run up to monetary union. But concern has also focused on how to force countries which do join to continue to obey the convergence

In November Theo Waigel, the German finance minister. proposed a "stability pact" threatening fines for countries which join the single currency if they then failed to maintain the Maastricht criteria. The "sta-

bility programme" appears to have grown out of this plan. The Commission appeared wary yesterday of giving too much detail of the plan, which officials acknowledge would be viewed as highly controversial in Britain and some other member states. "We are not drawing a new scheme to tell Britain what taxes to level," said one Commission official. "We are not setting out an economic

Hoaxed: Canadians pay £60,000 after mother's tragic TV cancer appeal





Out of the shadows: Donna Mercier in silhouette on television and (right) leaving a Toronto police station after being charged Photographs: AP

### Tale of the victim who never was

DAVID CRARY Associated Press

Toronto - It was a heartbreaking tale that moved Canadians nationwide: a young, single mother, dying of cancer, victimized by a purse snatcher. Yesterday, after a week-long outpouring of generosity, it turned out that the public had been the victims of a hoax.

Toronto police, whose poignant account of the woman's story prompted Canadians to send her \$112,000 (£60,000) in gifts, announced that Donna Mercier, 27, had been charged with public mis-

reporters when released from custody, but her lawyer, Paul Layefsky, said the charge related to reporting a crime that allegedly did not occur. Ms Layef-sky said she would plead inoocence. Further details of the case

terday. But the arrest followed media disclosures over the past two days that began to eat away at what had seemed to be one of the most heart-warming stories in Canada this year. It turned out that Mercier did

were due to be released yes-

not have cancer. Police said she had a kidney ailment instead, and there were conflicting rechief. She declined to speak to ports about its seriousness.

Theo the Toronto Star reported that Mercier was convicted of public mischief in 1987 after claiming she had been raped by asked for help or money, and two men. She later admitted that she had lied and pleaded

On Wednesday, police froze the bank account set up for the woman and stepped up an investigation into her claims. Mercier, whose name was not disclosed until Wednesday, became the object of national attention on 4 April wheo police reported a purse-soatching from a cancer-stricken single mother. Police said she had lost money, identification and

a bus ticket for her soo, so be

guilty to the mischief charge.

had to be persuaded to let them go public with the story of the theft in the hope that publicity would lead to recovery of her purse. Wheo the story was reported on television and in newspapers, donations and offers of belp flowed in. A bank account

cause she said she had recently left an abusive relationship. As the donations piled up, she appeared at a news conference, tearfully thanking ber

was opened for the woman, who

asked oot to be identified be-

could be with relatives after her death.

Police said the woman never dearth.

donors and asking that they stop seeding mooey. "I wish I could put everyone inside my beart, so they would know bow thankful I am," she said. But after her darkened silhouette was shown on television, anonymous callers telephoned police and the media, saying they recognized her

> said the outpouring of generosity still showed Toronto "was a real, caring city." An-other official said that if it was proved the story was a hoax, police department would seek some other "worthwhile, fully accountable" destination for

there has been a similar policy and disputing her story. Police Chief David Boothby towards foods imported for the Chinese community.
But the fact militants in the French language bureau chose this particular time to swoop is seen as significant.

The language police were established almost two decades ago when all languages other than French were prohibited from outdoor signs. That law was recently eased, however, to permit other languages as long as French predominates.

This followed last fall's referendum on independence in which former premier Jacques Parizeau blamed the separatists' close loss on "ethnics and money", a not-too-subtle reference

to Montreal's prosperous Jews. Since Mr Bouchard took over earlier this year he has tried to calm the English and immigrant communities. This in turn bas led to a backlash among some of French-speaking militants and hureaucrats whose raison d'être is enforcing French laws. Now Mr Bouchard's credibility on the line.

### Cautious meat-eaters opt for 'le vegiburger'

MARY DEJEVSKY

"It's vegetarian," the waiter said, saying the word very slowly, syllable by syllable. "That means it's got no meat in it. Is that what you want, madame?' This was the less than enthusiastic sales pitch for the le vegiburger, the new departure for Hippopotamus, the French, restaurant chain famous for its

the beef scare. But its launch was brought forward a couple of weeks, expanding the restaurants' noo-beef options, and the printed menu does not yet recognise the fact. I scanned it several times before establishing that the vegiburger merited only a discreet notice on the table, listing the alternatives to beef: leg of lamb, grilled pork, vegiburg-

Hippopotamus says that it introduced the non-meat burger to cater for what seemed a growing number of mainly younger customers who ordered a salad or a combination plate, then proceeded to pick out the bits of meat and leave them tidily on the side. Even at Hippopotamus, which advertises itself as a "meat lovers' haven", vegetarianism was start-

ing to be noticed. cbarcoal-grilled meat.

The arrival of the vegiburger at Hippotamus was planned, the accountry where a meal is often not considered a meal without management says, long before a decent piece of meat, significant. According to official statistics, weat consumption in France declined by almost 3 per cent in 1994, an unprecedented fall.

Now, the beef crisis is pushing vegetarianism further into respectability. It commands a new interest, if not respect. Over the past two weeks, as French ministers, meat wholesalers and butchers bave been

trying to talk up the languisher is treated as honorary meat. ing beef market, the few vegetarian restaurants in Paris and asked. "Sauce?" other big cities have registered I stopped him. "What sort of a 30 per cent increase in custom.

bave started printing vegetarian recipes. People are talking about "alternatives". At Hippopotamus, though, the waiters and customers seem far from convinced. Once identified and selected, le vegiburg-

Newspapers and magazines

"Rare or medium?" the waiter

sauce comes with a vegiburger?" "Any of the usual ones; béarnaise, shallot, hlack pepper ..." When it arrived, "medium", the vegiburger was chargrilled. slightly piquant, with a discernible nut content, soya, some tomato perhaps - but still an unfamiliar presence between the

A Celebration of

two halves of a French sesame Mine was the only vegiburg-

er in sight in the crowded restaurant. To my left a couple ordered plates of beef carpaccio; two beef tartars arrived further down; three hamburgers (rare) behind me, and two large steaks (extra rare) to the right. Vegetarian awareness may be growing, slowly. But meat-eating is not yet out of fashion.

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### Walesa gets presidential th fighting de exodu pension

**ADRIAN BRIDGE** 

Central Europe Correspondent The former Polish President

Lech Walesa's dramatic return to his old job as an electrician has ended before it really got started with news yesterday that he is to receive a pension of \$2,600 (£1,700) a month.

After fierce debate, MPs de cided overwhelmingly that Mr Walesa's services to the state deserved to be recognised - as did those of two other previous presidents: Wojciech Jaruzelski, the country's last communist leader, and Ryszard Kaczorowski, the last leader of the Polish government-in-exile set up in London during the war.

Mr Walesa, who was narrowh defeated in November's presidential election by the former communist Aleksander Kwasniewski, had complained that no provision had been made for him after he banded over office at the end of last year.

To underline the point, he announced his intention to take up his old job as an electrician at the Gdansk shipyard where he founded the Solidarity trade union and where his former bosses said they would he delighted to have him back.

In a highly-publicised return to the yard earlier this month, Mr Walesa said he needed the \$260 a month electrician's pay in order to make ends meet.

Part of the reason for the delay in awarding the pension was due to misgivings many MPs felt making a similar provision for Mr Jaruzelski, who declared martial law in the country in 1980. But Mr Jaruzelski said yesterday that he would not collect his presidential pension as be was already getting one as a retired army general.

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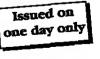
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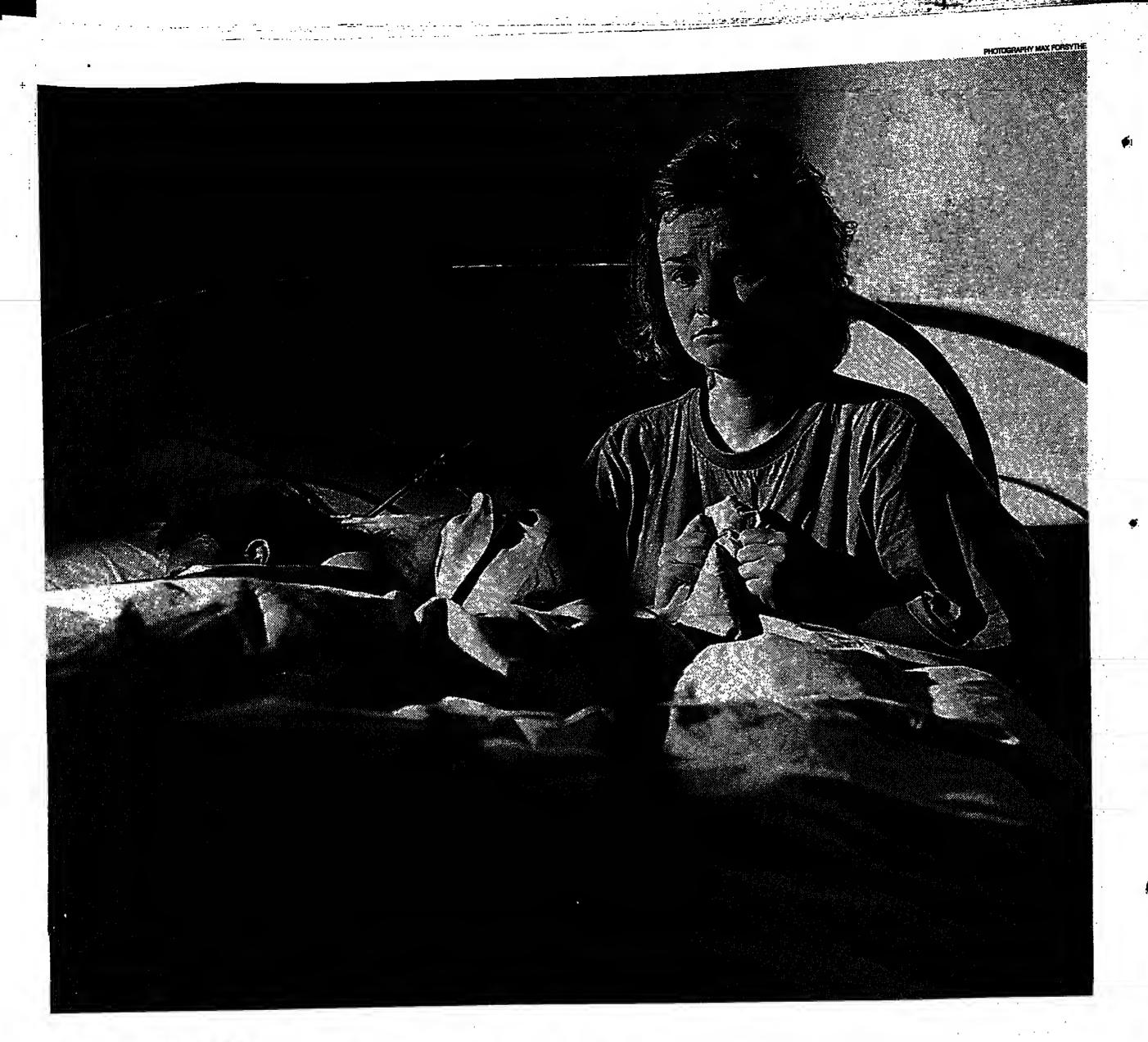
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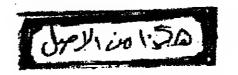
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buskers and sellers. But s

Adam, was b August, I hay see things dif

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ies security it with you. The Samaritans





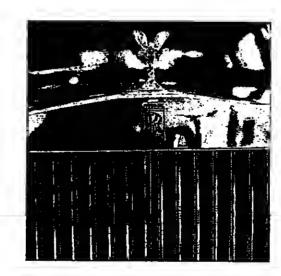
### INSIDE STORIES



It's funny how your priorities change. A year ago I kept well away from American-style malls, preferring the unpredictability of the city centre with its market and small shops, its buskers and 'Big Issue' sellers. But since my son, Adam, was born last August, I have started to see things differently



One of the greatest mysteries of the Thatcher years was how the PM's husband managed to avoid the sarcastic opprobrium that is routinely heaped onto female political consorts. No one ever suggested Denis was pulling the strings. He never seemed anything more than a hen-pecked old fogey



11 'Ritch bitch,' he said.
And all my friend was doing was filling her £6,995 car at a petrol station in Derby. And, no, she was not dressed in mink, nor even in Prada. This friend is neither rich nor a bitch.
But, for her sins, she does drive a two-tone second-hand Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow

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gold Control

### picture story



The horizons of Soweto children rarely stretch beyond the tumbledown shacks that scatter their landscape. Few go to school, but are less likely to commit street crime or fall victim to it as a result of Trans-Stzwe. This 400-strong security firm, set up in 1993 to meet the

# SQUATTERS OF SOWETO

The end of apartheid brought hope to the millions living in the shanty towns of South Africa. But the problems of poverty, social unrest and crime have continued. Emma Boam visited Chris Hani's squatter camp in Soweto to record living conditions and found that since the setting up of Trans-Sizwe, a private security firm comprising many former ANC guerillas, the quality of life has slowly started to improve



Three members of Traos-Sizwe, which comprises former members of the ANC, yeterans from the Angolan war and ex-prisoners. All are highly trained in secret bunkers in Soweto



Despite the temporary nature of their accommodation, the squatters are keen to mark out their territory to secure ownership and deter burglars

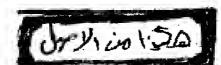


Weapons collected from youths who are stopped and searched at Cliptown station, which is on the main-



Two common sights: (above) animals are often kept for a spot of subsistence farming, while (right), despite or perhaps because of the poverty, families stay close-knit. Here, a boy stands between his mother and grandmother





# Space: the final

Deborah Warner is one of our leading theatre directors, but she doesn't like working in theatres. She'd rather stage 'The Waste Land' down a lift shaft than at the National any day. By Paul Taylor. Photographs by Neil Libbert

frontier





Above: Deborah Warner, frustrated by the English insistence on subsidising buildings rather than people. Left: Fiona Shaw on the set of The Waste Land, Paris

fatally limiting, it's people "who think they know the shape of theatre". Fixed ideas on either the sort of spaces theatre is permitted to inhabit or the forms it is allowed to take are abhorrent to her. This may account for why she is to be found at the moment travelling around the world - Paris, Montreal, Toronto, Milan - with her production of TS Eliot's The Waste Land, a text which was very much not written as a theatre piece and which is performed by Fiona Shaw in non-theatrical sites selected by Warner for their atmospheric. reaction with this great modernist poem and its famous "heap of broken images".

The evocative power of buildings seems to have become an obsession with the multiaward-winning 36-year-old director. One of the strangest and most memorable successes of last year's LIFT festival, for example, was Warner's St Pancras Project, which treated the grand, wrecked, ahandoned interior of Gilbert Scott's Victorian Gothic station hotel as a sort of "found poem" on the theme of suspension between two lives. Audience members, if so they could still be called, were sent individually through it on a mapped-out "fantastical walk". Inverting normal theatrical convention, where the huilding houses a communally shared experience, the huilding in this case constituted the experience, as vestigial ghosts of its former existence stirred, flitted, and half-materialised at the corner of your eye, making you feel like

Alice alone in a serially haunting dream. If Warner were to write a book about her adventures and misadventures searching out locations for The Waste Land, "Let's do the show right here!" would make a neatly ironic title. In Brussels, where the piece originated, she found an abandoned department store "which had a marvellous lift-well down the midthe. We were going to put Fiona at the bottom of the well, with the audience looking down. It would have been a terrific spatial relationship." Permission fell through, though, as it did for putting Shaw in one of the booths in the mission-control-like new conference chambers of the European Parliament, with the audience pattern of West End theatre-going (the Garrick in the green armchairs receiving the piece through translation headphones. The Parliament didn't much care for the title of the work, nightly at £4 a ticket) was produced by MC 93

there's one thing Deborah Warner finds appealed, said: "Now, if it had been a Welsh poem, there would have been no problem."

Boom towns - "where everything has just been turned into a new night-club" - are particularly tricky. When Warner finally found the perfect deserted, derelict spot in Toronto, it turned out that the ground on which the tin hut in question stood was poisoned ("I quite liked that"). But if, from the artistic perspective, this merely enhanced the setting's charm and relevance to a poem about spiritual sterility, it also, from the authorities' point of view, ruled it out. Each city, though, has, finally, come up with the goods. In Dublin, for example, The Waste Land was staged at an abandoned English fort atop a hill in Phoenix Park in the low, domeceilinged 18th-century bunkers where they kept the gunpowder. The space was abstract," says Warner: "it was almost like walking into someone's brain."

I caught up with the production a fortnight ago in Paris, where Shaw performed the poem in the intimate Amphithéatre de Morphologie, where students take life-drawing classes at the Ecole nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts. Paris was a good spot on the itinerary at which to intersect with this show and not just because, by now, the actress has developed a deep, virtuosic inwardness with the material or because the French capital - where Warner and Shaw ("le tandem anglais") made the front page of Le Monde in January when the National's Richard II (with Shaw as king) hit town - houses a wildly appreciative audience for this English director's work (she's been made a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres). More tellingly, Paris has also emerged as an alterna-

tive source of subsidy for her imagination. Two years ago, Warner's staging of Samuel Beckett's Footfalls at the Garrick Theatre was the subject of scandal, when her reallocation of some of the lines and her deviation from the pedantic dead letter, if not the spirit, of the play's stage directions caused the Beckett Estate to issue a fativa on the projected European tour and TV version. One hitle noticed irony of the affair is that this conscious attempt to break the interior dislocatingly transformed; the show, court to the Forest of Arden. lasting an intense 20 minutes, performed twicewhile Neil Kinnock's office, to which she Bobigny, a generously funded French theatre in aspires to achieve. The only equivalent space

a very big outer circle horough of Paris that happens to be run by the Communists. (The same outfit sponsored the French runs of Richard II, to the tune of £260,000, and of The Waste Land.) Among Warner's plans for the coming year are a production of either Miss Julie or A Doll's House at the Odéon with Isabelle Huppert in the leading role. At an enigmatic point in English theatre's fortunes - with Trevor Nunn, the surprise artistic director designate of the National, yet to disclose his hand - Paris offers a revealing perspective from which to look at a key young English director's relationship with her native theatre and the challenges she faces in securing imaginative freedom.

There was a period recently of ahout two years when Warner, one of the National's associates, significantly produced no work on the South Bank. She has grown much fonder of the place of late - particularly since Richard Eyre, whom she describes as a "pretty glorious godfather, gave his consent to her dream of directing Fiona Shaw as Richard II. You can sense, though, her frustration at the English tradition of subsidising buildings rather than people, with the result that the huildings can end up running the people, who then don't end up running the art: "If I were French, I would be funded as an individual." The National Theatre is prepared to subsidise one's imagination, she points out, "as long as one's imagination is contained within the walls of the National Theatre".

The sticking point, for her, is that, unlike Bobigny (with its infinitely adaptable, 900-seater empty box of a main house) or the Berlin Schaubühne (with its three flexibly interconnecting hangar-like expanses), the National has "no versatile space of scale", the Cottesloe, the South Bank hunker's only flexible house, being limited by its 400-seat capacity. She did once try to make a Beckett piece in the big and rather beautiful paint-frame there, but the Borough of Lambeth wouldn't grant a licence. The architectural limitations of the National are something she's been brooding on while pondering a possible production of As You Like It, a work which offers the opportunity for magical play with changing dimensions on the move from the

Bobigny could certainly co-produce with, say, Frankfurt the kind of vision of the piece she is the biggest bore".

in could transfer to in London, she argues, is the Riverside Studios (where her celehrated, openheart surgery RSC production of Electra was remounted). But the Riverside doesn't have the necessary producing money and the National can't afford to take on umhrella projects. The idea of having to go ahroad to do a hig Shake-speare play with a large group of English actors, and not being able to bring it home, she finds a dismaying prospect; and if she were to secure the foreign money to do so, "it would he a ter-ribly, terribly unbalanced act. It means that the rest of Europe would he subsidising the

National to put a show on outside itself. It is known that the Royal Court's Stephen Daldry, regarded as one of the main contenders for the top job at the National, sounded Warner out by phone. All she will say of what passed between them is that she urged him to press ahead. It's mouth-watering to imagine what might have come from the combination of the daring and maverick producing skills of Daldry (to whom effecting major theatrical face-lifts and charming money from stone seem to come as easily as breathing) and Warner's pure, radical vision of what theatre might he. The hope is that Trevor Nunn, who has little to prove in the directing stakes, will throw his creative energies into the production side. Were he to offer Warner a permanent role at his National, she would consider it very carefully - but, she tells me, "the conversation would have to be the one we've just had".

Her staging of Waste Land demonstrates in ahundance a strength detectable in Warner's work since the early Kick Theatre Shakespeares she directed in her twenties: an ability to illuminate the complex or the rhetorically puzzling by cutting straight to the heart of the human emotion hehind it. This is evident here from the moment when Fiona Shaw steps through a tall, narrow door into the spookily lit chamber where the arms of two straining classical statues of naked men throw arches of black shadow on the back wall. Hesitating at the threshold, she delivers that famous first line. "April is the cruellest month", not as some lapidary, impersonal statement, but with the flouncing shrug and raised-eyes manner of some society preacher announcing that "Ascot

So surprising you almost laugh out loud, yet untypical piece of frontier-shifting.

also so penetrating, in its affected weariness and hint of inverted commas. It thrusts you straight into the world of the poem which dramatises spiritual drought, a state in which it is perfectly possible to be Oh-so-knowing about cultural reference points, while desperately lacking a living connection with any culture.

The original intention, given the setting, had been to present Shaw as a model who suddenly voices, after hours, the thoughts that had run through her hrain during the enforced silence of the working day. That idea is left implicit, though, in a performance that dazzlingly encompasses the multiple identities in Eliot's poem. Sometimes, she achieves these shifts in convulsive outbursts or lightning involuntary switches of attention, as though she were the medium through which these voices were roughly forcing their way out. Her cropped hair and bony androgynous look are perfect for the timeless, suffering and ambiguous presence of Tiresias. the hlind prophet who has been both genders and through whose eyes we see the squalid, fuule sex that emphasises the isolation in this wasteland. Warner had worried, at first, about whether you could take people so swiftly on such a cryptic journey through such difficult terrain. The inference she has drawn from the emotional impact it unfailingly makes is of "how slowly audiences are usually taken through things".

At some as yet unspecified date, the production will end its life in London, the city which the poem makes the paradigm of all cities and whose commuters ("The crowd flowed over London Bridge, so many / I had not thought death had undone so many") are likened to Dante's spiritual dead in the Inferno. The vast chambers of the new British Library, before the books are put in, is one of the sites, permission permitting, that Warner has carmarked as a possible space for the London staging. Were this to coincide with a projected revival of the St Pancras Project in July, it would mean that Warner was slowly colonising King's Cross. She jokes that she should set up a concurrent production in the Red Light district ("You could have the critics cruising by in cars. Do you know any cruisers ...?") and I suggest that she would then have become to this patch of non-theatre land what Bill Kenwright, no less, is to Shaftesbury Avenue. A distinctly piquant but not



### **Checkout** Harrods

What is it? A small Knightsbridge republic, Harrods' handsome Victorian buildings stretch over four acres of prime shopping turf. The store began life as a corner shop, but expanded rapidly, its posh moniker becoming a by-word for luxury. Now one of London's top tourist magnets, rarefied opulence is lost in a blizzard of green and gold gift merchandising.

Customers? In its beyday, Oscar Wilde and Lily Langtree ran tabs here. These days you're more likely to be buffeted by German and American tourists.

Services: Harrods promised a "cradle to grave" package with a nursery and undertaking service. The store still has a bank, pub, and interior design studio. And you can stash that troublesome fur in the store's subterranean vault.

What To Buy? If you've got the smackers, the sky's the limit: Bronze Egyptian torch holders, a snip at £5.495. perfect for that Kubla Khan look. The beautifully tiled foodhall stocks 1,200 wines and 350 cheeses, as well as fashionable safari food like Kangaroo steak (£19.80/kg) or Ostrich slicing sausage with pistachios (£2/100g).

What Not To buy? Oysters for two at a tiny bar in the foodhall. At £100 these standard platters aren't exactly a hargain and the pressing crowds are enough to give the most determined snob indigestion.

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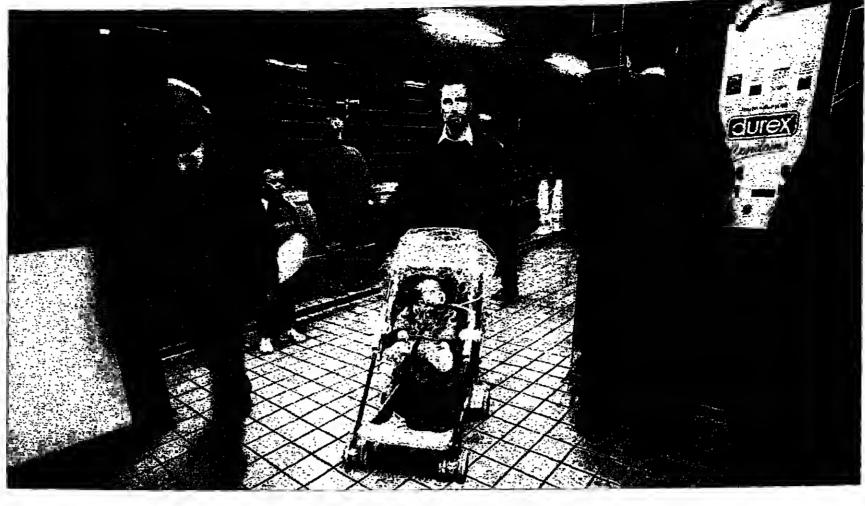
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Tules from the Eurth (0171 720 4990).



# What's a man to do with a wet nappy?

One man and his baby go shopping in Cambridge. Natural it may be, simple it isn't. By Tony Kelly

used to think shopping was easy – an hour on the pay-and-display and a quick dash from shop to shop. But since my son. Adam, was born last August I have started to see things differently have started to see things differently have the store room as well. Wouldn't it be easier simply to lock the store room and not make customers feel such a nuisance?

Boots is always high on the shopping list parent will know, a trip to the shops with a baby can soon turn into an obstacle course as you try to manoeuvre a push-chair up norrow steps and through beavy, unwilling doors. Becoming a parent certainly opens your eyes to the problems faced by people in wheelchairs.

Babies have other oeeds too - they have to be fed and changed regularly. For women this means finding somewhere to breast-feed in privacy and warmth; for meo it means a search for a changing-room that is not women-only. You start to plan your shopping women-only. You start to plan your shopping trips, not according to what you want to buy but to where the best facilities are. So the week before Easter Adam and I set out for wox, and with Adam heavily into pureed Cambridge (our nearest large town) on a vegetables we needed a new liquidiser as highly unscientific survey to discover which well. The kitchen department is in the basefriendly.

We started in Woolworths, chock-a-block with people buying Easter eggs. At eight months Adam is too young for chocolate so I decided to look at the toys on the first floor. In trying to get the push-chair upstairs we encountered a forbidding notice: "Under no circumstances may customers use the lifts without a member of staff". Why not, I asked the attendant once I had managed to locate

these days - nappies, baby food, cotton wool. I bought some toothpaste and decided to investigate the arrangements for parents with babies in tow. "Fathers are welcome to use this facility," said a note on the door of the Mother and Baby Room, "Before entering please check with a member of the Baby Department." A quick sniff revealed no urgent need, so rather than disturb a breastfeeding mum purely in the interests of research I moved on.

Robert Sayle is the Cambridge branch of meal and when I toung three afficult flights of stairs but no lift I asked an assistant what I should do. "The building is too old to take a lift." she said. "I'll give you a hand down the stairs if you like. Or you can leave the baby behind the counter, or leave the chair and take the baby." An impressive range of choices, and helpful personal attention. But I wasn't going to leave my baby with a stranger and I didn't feel like carrying a baby, a liquidiser and a wok.

By now nature was calling us both so we beaded for the public toilets beside the library. The baby-changing facilities were in the Ladies' so I asked the attendant in the gents' how I could use them. "You can't," was bis blunt reply "but you could try the disabled toilet at the bus station." When I got there the disabled loo was locked and you needed a RADAR key (issued to registered disabled people) to get in. Once again there was a changing-room inside the Ladies', but despite a notice warning of a male cleaner in attendance I didn't feel like charging in

to investigate. I'd never been to a McDonalds but I'd heard you could change your baby there. This being Cambridge, where there was long resistance to the very idea of a McDonalds, Inevitably, there is a Mothercare. If any it has a wood-panelled shop froot and fake Gothic pillars inside. Baby-chan ing was advertised as being inside the disabled toilet, but the door was locked, there was no-one ing a biginac and tries I didn't want to draw attention to myself. Increasingly desperate. we soeaked away.

Around the corner we found what we wanted. Eaden Lilley is a department store with an Italianate café on the top floor. Dad was ready for a cup of lea, Adam was ready for a clean nappy and this seemed just the place. At last, a baby-changing room for mums or dads, separate from the toilets, with a large changing-mat and rolls of clean

paper. But wby, oh why, do you have to go down some steps to reach it?

Back in the sun, Adam was getting thirsty and fortunately we bad arranged to meet his mother in the Grafton Centre. It's funny bow your priorities change. A year ago I kept well away from this American-style mall, preferring the unpredictability of the city centre with its market and small shops, its buskers and Big Issue sellers, sunshine and rain. But now child-frieodliness is what matters and the Graftoo Centre is as friendly as you can get: automatic doors, ramps instead of steps, and parent-and-baby rooms in every shop from BHS and Debenhams to

Inevitably, there is a Mothercare. If any shop should be baby-friendly it is this one and despite the name, it is father-friendly too. Mother disappeared into the "mummy's room" to feed Adam in peace; then father around and since I had no intention of buy- took him into the large, lockable "parent's -mat, botue-warmei and a toilet which solves the eternal problem (for women especially) of how to squeeze a push-chair into a tiny cubicle.

This seems the perfect answer for both mums and dads, one that respects the rights of women to breast-feed in private and of men to go shopping with their babies. My only complaint is that you have to put up with a talking tree and a series of infuriating jingles to get there.

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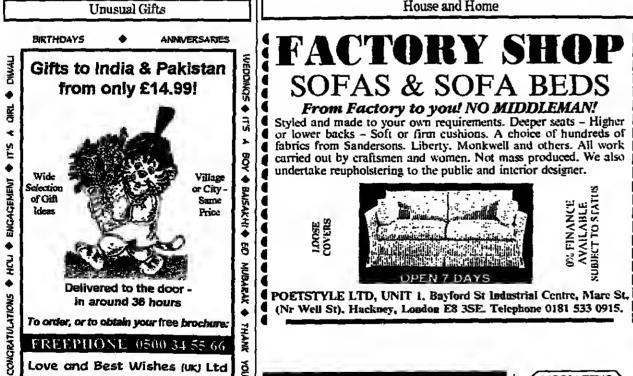
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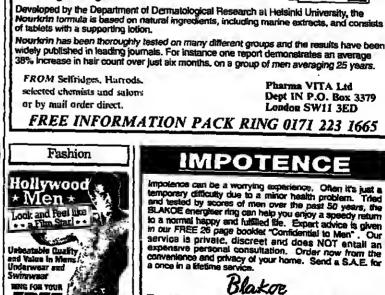
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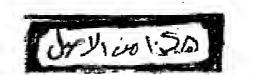


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## Merran Fane believed in fairies. She went into business with them and together they made a fortune

By Clive Fewins



Merran Fane

Photos: John

erran Fane believed in Father Christmas until she was 14. She still believes in fairies. It is a helief that has strengthened in the past twoand-a-half years, as she has seen the profits of her business. The Faerie Shop, grow and grow,

When we started the business friends thought we were mad. I think the bank manager gave it a few months," said Merran, an effervescent Australian mother of four.

After a slow start the shop, tucked away in a yard off the High Street in Marlborough. Wilt-shire, made what Merran describes as "staggering profits" in its first year: "People now come from all over the country for our fairy costumes, dolls, fairy cakes, pictures, fairy nightlights, model fairies, stationery, cards, jewellery, purses - there are about 150 lines in all.

"For the present we have decided against another hranch but we have licensed the name to a couple in Truro who are great fairy peo-

to support the family from his business as a paper conservator, specialising in restoring watercolours. They chose Marlhorough hecause it was the nearest town to their

"The idea came from my mother, who happened to mention that there are at least 20 fairy shops in Australia. I had never done any retailing before hut I thought it would he a good idea to start Britain's first fairy shop."

The shop has two floors. The first floor is a gallery that encircles the huilding. Most of the fairy pictures are displayed here. Classic fairy artists like Cecily Mary Barker, Arthur Rackham and Molly Brett loom large. This floor also houses the most unusual feature of the shop the fairy hower, with a fairy ring of red and white-spotted "toadstool" cushions on the floor. and walls and ceiling decorated with mystical woodland scenes. Here the Fairy Queen can be hired to tell stories at hirthday parties or on other special occasions.

"The children sit entranced. The hoys, up to the age of about 10, go in sceptical and come out gobsmacked," said Merran. "The smaller ones often ask if they can stay the night, but point out that fairies get very mis-Merran started the shop when it became about the fairy dust that is all over the shop increasingly hard for her husband Andrew, as well as getting up to all sorts of other naughty tricks."

There may be naughty fairies hut there are no evil fairies at The Faerie Shop. "I prefer to avoid the dark side. All is light and bright and cheerful here," Merran said. "I try to make it I usually manage to take them down a differ-

a place that is uplifting and upbeat; where people come to cheer up. The other day a lady came in who had just left her dog with the vet for an operation. She just wanted to relax and have a chat."

If by any chance you feel on less than effervescent form on entering the shop you will be unable to restrain yourself from responding in some way to the shocking pink and purples in the tulle fairy dresses in the window, the racks of sparkling fairy shoes, the large polystyrene Pegasus welcoming you by the door or the decor of stars and moons with fairies and castles in cloudy landscapes.

Those that respond positively ascend the magic staircase to view the gallery and fairy bower. It consists of a steel spiral swathed in hranches of the contorted willow tree (salix contorta) for which the Fanes advertised in a local newspaper, before Andrew went out with a saw to the garden of the respondent.

"Most of the purchases are by adults for chil-ren," Merran said. "However we have our fair share of adult believers, like the lady from Hampshire who recently spent three hours in the shop and left having signed a cheque for

"Of course we do get a handful of customers who want to fall about laughing over it all, hut

ent path." Merran said. "We also get some gay

They also love the ornaments we sell. "However to me the most important thing is that by bringing back the fairies into people's lives we are fulfilling a need. As a little girl I found the world of Disney was magic. Today the whole idea has been merchandised and pummelled to death.

couples who like the masks and the jewellery.

We are trying to recreate this sense of childhood magic and mystery. I think this is tremendously important in an age of which poor little innocents are so often bomharded with violence

and the horrors of war.
"We feel there is a need for shops like this right across Britain in order to put a sense of wonderment back into the lives of modern children. We looked at London but it was too expensive. Franchising is not the answer either. The shop is too much a projection of my own character. You can't put that into a franchising manual.

can't have anybody running a branch of The Faerie Shop. It is too much of a responsibility."

> The Faerie Shop, 22 Hughenden Yard, High Street, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 ILT. Tel: 01672 515995. For a free mail order catalogue, tel 01672 871001.

### The thing about **Travel Accessories**

You're in an airport. It doesn't really matter which airport, because in their essential details airports are all the same: they are designed that way to reduce culture shock and help travellers passing through to feel as though they haven't really got off the plane at all.
You've checked in the requisite couple

of decades early, courtesy of the IRA and ETA, and now you have time to kill. McDonald's is full of depressed-looking people in vest T-shirts, basehall caps and hum bags. The amusement arcade is full of drunks, as is the English-style puh. All the plastic hucket seats are occupied by angry families. Once you've exhausted the pile of Jeffrey Archers and copies of Bravo Two Zero in the newsagent, swallowed some Nurofen in the chemist, tried out the lipsalves in the Body Shop. there is only one alternative open to you:

travel accessories.

The thing about travel accessories is that they prove just how deeply ingrained is the human urge to shop. Travel, however much you like it, is unsettling: it is an experience that contains the seeds of chaos and is one of those times when you have virtually no control over your environment, like being in hospital or signing on at the DHSS. Shopping is a way of re-exerting that sense of control. And the fact that a group of smart companies has tapped into that primeval urge to rip you off hardly matters.

A good travel accessory has to have the following characteristics: it must be easily made in grey or white plastic; it must make people go "ooh, that's a good idea" when they see it: it must be firmly packaged in card stapled to plastic so the consumer can't get it out and feel the quality until after they have laid over their money; its 300 per cent mark-up must make it fall within the price range of £6.95 to £8.95 so that the consumer huys more than one object; and it either never quite fulfils its purpose or breaks the second time it's used.

Face it: if you haven't already bought an adaptor plug before you get to the airport, that prohably means you don't have any need for it. And what about those handy ways of carrying your money to avoid the notorious pickpockets that infest every town that's not the one you live in? They either show under your clothes, are impossible to get to without completely disrobing, or made of a material that causes sweat rash. Those pots of mosquito-repellent wipes lose their tops in your handbag and turn into extremely high-priced hankies. Neck pillows, which in themselves are a wonderful invention, are always constructed with seams that spring a leak when you deflate them.

We continue, none the less, to keep buying them. Gatwick Airport has a higher per capita consumer spend than Alton Towers. One should, of course, commend companies whose entrepreneurial spirit has risen to this weren't for the threat from terrorist groups whose main gripes include economic exploitation, there would be virtually no one in Europe who owned a handy folding toothbrush in a plastic case complete with a tiny tube of dentifrice?

Serena Mackesy



### **AUCTIONS**

Donhams presents an Bimportant but virtually unknown name Kenkichi Tomimoto --- at its contemporary ceramics sale. Wednesday and Thursday (6pm). The Japanese artist was taught to throw pots by the grandfather of British studio pottery, Bernard Leach. Hitherto, mention of

Leach and Japan has conjured only the name Shoii Hamada, who was Leach's inspiration during his 11 year stay in the country from 1909. But it was in Tokyo in 1912 that "Tomi" used Leach's wheel to make his first pot.

There are pots by Hamada at most Bonhams' auctions but Tomi's are scarce and sought after by collectors. This sale has 11 pieces of his. There is an exquisite 5-inch high white octagonal lidded pot of 1935 estimated at £1,800-£2,500 and a set of five porcelain dishes with red circles enclosing blue painted landscapes that he gave to Bernard and Janet Leach as a wedding pre-

Estimated £6,000-£8,000, they are from Janet Leach's outstanding collection of Dame Lucie Rie, who died last year, having achieved the reputation of Britain's greatest potter. Bernard Leach's sepia pen and wash drawing of a dew pond on the South Downs, £1,200-£1,800,

belonged to her. For those with limited funds who share ber eye for promising pots, an

unnamed stoneware St Ives coffee pot with ill-fitting lid, once part of her collection, is estimated £140-£180. The buyer gets an enviable provenance and the right to speculate that Dame Lucie fell in love with the pot hecause it has low-slung ergonomically efficient handle, a design feature she pio-

Rubbing shoulders with

dozens of "Bernards" and

"Lucies" at Bonhams are an unprecedented numher of comparatively unknown names trying their luck for the first time in the contemporary ceramics market's most prestigious point of sale. It is an unusual market in having fewer dealers than you can count on one hand. Instead of huying cheap at auction and selling dear in the high street, they often find themselves outbid by private buyers at Bonhams, where prices are determined. So, to have a pot

accepted for auction by Bonhams' mandarin Cyril Frankel is an honour. There are works by a dozen newcomers in this sale. My favourite: a porcelain ceramic hound by Paul Priest (b.1947), a virtual newcomer to Bonbams. It is an old scraggy creature, full of febrile movement made livelier by Priest's cultivation of an unfinished touch - as in the crimped pie-crust treatment of the hound's spine. Est. £120-£180.

John Windsor | Wimbledon

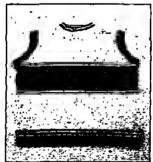
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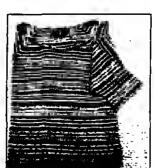
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### **TELEVISION** 999 (BBC1)

Michael Buerk knows all about rescues; 999 saved his career. By Jasper Rees

ichael Buerk delivered probably the most influential news report in broadcasting history. A hit like Neil Armstrong or, more parochially. Geoff Hurst, he carries the knowledge that nothing he does will ever match the impact made by one day's work in Ethiopia. It can't be the lightest burden to lug into the office every day: no longer out in the field, he leans against the

fence admiring the greener grass beyond it.
This explains his touching fidelity to 999. The catastrophes of which it tells have all already happened, some of them several years before. Terrifying for the participants, they have been tamed for our entertainment, packaged into a consumable narrative complete with dire por-

tents and a cathartic ending.

When 999 first drew accusations of sensationalism, Buerk leapt to its defence, less, you sense, out of belief in the product than out of gratitude for the rescue operation it performed on his own career. For five series now it has been getting him out of the news room. Television presenters down on their luck would be strongly advised to send off for a 999 Careersavers Video Pack listing how the rescue was performed.

First of all. 999 teaches presenters to BE ALARMIST. Whether reporting from an Ethiopian drought or a suburban kitchen, Buerk's vocal role is always to sound as if he's just peeped round the corner and can see death lying in wait. But don't try this at home: it's unsafe to talk like this unless you're in front of a camera.

It helps to DRESS THE PART. For a report on a sailing accident in which a yachtswoman was trapped underwater, our intrepid presenter is got up like a marine commando in tight black polo neck. For the maritime safety-hints section he sensibly straps himself into a life jacket. But the pièce de résistance is the miner's helmet with lamp.

On the news all Buerk's hands are allowed to do is shuffle hits of paper, but on 999 they SAW THE AIR. This is best illustrated in the piece about the tree surgeon who inadvertently per-formed surgery on his own leg with a machine for grinding tree stumps. As Buerk impresses on us that this is "a pretty powerful piece of equip-ment", his right hand performs light staccato jabs at it, as if afraid to get too near.

His most expressive gesture accompanies the words, "Make sure you're properly trained." The left hand, palm down, goes up and down in a slow motion, as if administering a reassuring pat on the head to a large dog. Or a seated viewer.

### THEATRE Lady Chatterley's Lover, The Cockpit, London

So did the earth move? Adrian Turpin watches the first adaptation of DH Lawrence's controversial novel to hit the London stage since 1961



No ice cubes or baby oil: Connie Chatterley (Simone Labbib) and Oliver Mellors (Peter Tate)

Photograph: Stuart Morris

ard cases make bad law. And, if Lady Chauerley's Lover is anything to go by, had books make good law. Without the obscenity trial of 1960, the story of Connie Chatterley's passion for the gamekeeper Mellors would be just another minor DH Lawrence novel, wedged on academics' bookshelves between Aaron's Rod and The Trespasser, and probably unopened since 1963 (or whenever else it was that sexual intercourse began). The plot is paper thin, the language priapically bloated, and the characters little more than ciphers for the author's kooky quasireligious beliefs about sex and class. The question Britain's first stage adaptation of the novel for 35 years begs isn't "Why wait so long?" but "Why bother at all?"

Well, it must have some appeal. Fusion Theatre's production ran five months in Toronto, before reaching the Cockpit, Why? A cynic might suggest the hearty on-stage nudity (the promise of which has been shamelessly used to hype the show) and the novel's totemic fame. That, though, would be unfair. This is, for the most part, a well-cast, well-written, well-directed production, Marshall Gould's adaptation wisely avoids the temptation to add its own layer of fantasy and phantasmagoria Ken Russell-style on to the original. The scenes are short to the point of being staccato. Connie's marriage, the outbreak of war, Sir Clifford Chatterley's confinement to a wheelchair are done with in the first 10 minutes. By the time Mellors eoters, strolling in the woods with his gun, proceedings already have a certain pace to them.

Poor Mellors. Or rather, the poor actor playing him, who must cope with some of the silliest dialogue known to English liter-ature. Anyone who can say, "We fucked a flame into being and for me it is the only thing on Earth", without making an audience snigger, probably justifies the admission fee on his own. Peter Tate manages this and more. At first I had my doubts, when he seemed not so much noble savage as plain noble, too posh for a collier's son. But you sooo warm to him, and after a while Mellors's self-conscious switches between Derby dialect and King's English seem utterly natural, as does the character's unlikely blend of tenderness and animal sensuality.

Perhaps there aren't too many surprises or revelations, but there is one splendid scene in which Mrs Bolton, the village woman who tends Clifford (an excellent Carolyn Jones), plays chess with him, while Mellors seduces Connie. It's genuinely odd. Tristan and Isolde play chess in the legend, as do Ferdinand and Miranda in The Tempest. But here the young lovers are replaced by an impotent aristocratic and a woman who acts like his nanny. The other early, semi-clothed love scenes could benefit from a touch more of this strangeness. Only once the clothes come off do sparks finally fly, and the sex itself is surprisingly watchable; a vast improvement on Hollywood's ice-cube and baby-oil variety, eveo if it does have Lawrence's coal-smudged fingerprints all over it.

To 4 May. The Cockplt, London NW8 (0171-402 5081)

### CLASSICAL National Youth Orchestra

Nicholas Williams admires an energetic, polished conclusion to a Bruckner series

Time and tide wait for oo man, but in Bruckner symphonies time certainly passes more slowly than usual. As for tides, a flood of gathering energy in these works suggests inexorable forces harnessed by the composer in music that is itself a natural emanation. Beyond the stars, the crystal spheres sing eternal Bruckner Adagios.

Back on earth, the National Youth Orchestra

played the Eighth Symphony at the Barbican on Thursday and found something of their own to say about this intense and complex masterpiece. In the past, their most challenging assignments have demanded and received both discipline and mature knowledge of style and substance: which is probably wby the London Symphony Orchestra invited them to take over the final concert of their Bruckner-Mozart series. Coached by La? principals at a recent residency and conducted by János Fürst, the young players could be safely entrusted not just to close the show, but to add the hallmark of their own polished enthusiasm.

In the event, there was a certain amount of getting down to business in the first movement, not helped by a platform introduction that destroyed the essential mood of silence prior to such an extensive journey. The opening musical statement lacked due sense of primal mystery in consequence, though the ensemble's concentration and desire to transcend the notes was plain to see. But Adrian Wilson's oboe playing soon became an inspiration, while the flutes remained leaders of the pack until that hreathtaking moment where the music falls away, leaving one of their number incanting pale arpeggios above a queasy abyss.

Fürst's sure, committed grasp of the music included a special rapport with the strings, though he was also sensitive to the needs of other orchestral departments. Strings, horn and clarinet wove deft patterns to begin the trio section of the Scherzo, though later they were a little too forward in their sense of climax. But everything came right in the slow movement, its main theme conceived without Mahlerian angst, and with the sudden harmonic swiftness at its end, plus three harps. a place where you held your breath as the music looked upwards. From here the musical tide flowed inexorably through to the thrilling flourish of percussion and the moment of reprise, the plain opening chord now set in a garland of orchestral fioritura. The finale was broadly paced - a risk that Fürst might have lived to regret in the already generous measure of the Haas edition of this work, but which came off magnificently.



### We crowd round the winner. 'Any advice for bald people out there?'

t is Thursday, and the grand climax -after four long, arduous years - of the Hair Grower of the Year competition. Today, one man, deemed to have most successfully grown his hair back from baldness, will receive a check for £10,000 from Radio 2's Ken Bruce at a star-studded media event at the Savoy. And what a long, crazy four years it's heen. Since 1992, hundreds of contestants from across the country have been drinking 1 1/2 litres of water while hanging upside-down by their feet and thinking non-stress-ful thoughts. And the finalists cer-

tainly look non-stressed. Still bald,

admittedly, hut noo-stressed. Think of them as like the Wright hrothers, "says hair-growing svengali Andy Bryant. "The Wright hrothers only flew for 59 seconds. But they showed that it could be done."

"But they're still hald," I say.
"No they're not," says Andy.

He shows me a "before" photograph of James Oldham. He looks semi-hald. Then he points to a semi-

hald man in the crowd. "That's James now," he says. "Still semi-hald," I mutter.

"Half a centimetre on average!" says James. "That's how much his hair has grown back. The tip of the nose to the hairline measurement has remained a constant 14.5cm, but the width of the bald crown has reduced from 8.5cm to 6cm. And that's some-

couldn't be done. But four years for half a centimetre, when a trip to the wig shop takes, mere minutes, if they're so hair self-ahsorbed... Who can understand people sometimes? sity, and the like, and 200 journalists funny story at the end of the news.

But today, the nation's media are at least trying to understand. I rather thought I'd be the only journalist here, and would consequently be compelled to make awkward smalltalk with deluded hald men for hours. But the room is packed. There are hundreds of us here.

And wheo the judging actually And I guess it is, when they said it starts, and the contestants sit in a chair while four hesuited experts crowd around each hald pate and ruo their fingers through the remaining hair, testing for shine, viscosity, den-

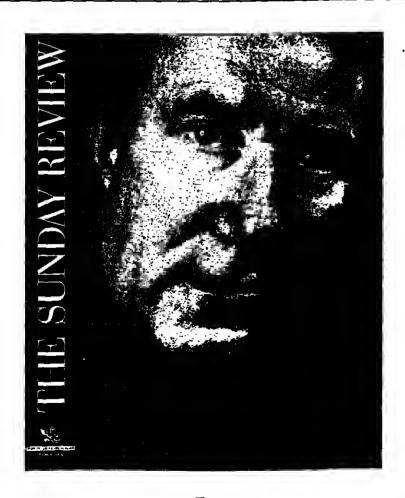
are giggling like childreo uoderneath their hands; well - I can't think of anyone in the world I'd like to be less than a grand-finalist in the Hair Grower of the Year contest. The assertively unstressed competitors suddenly start to appear decidedly tense, and the terrible irony could be that, after four years of hanging upside-down and eating the right sorts of vegetables, all that good work could be undone by one high-profile media day at the Savoy, followed by an awful, ignoble evening of being the

The winner turns out to be James Oldham, and we crowd around and preteod to be genuinely excited. 'How do you feel?'

"Great." "Any advice for hald people out

"I đid it, and so cao you." "What's the secret of your success?" "No stress, hanging upside-down, drinking 1 1/2 litres of water, and eating the right sorts of vegetables."

"Any message for people with wigs?" "I did it and so can you." And so on.



The show that didn't go on... When Rupert Murdoch gave Andrew Neil his own American TV show, there was talk of a hard-hitting challenge to conventional news values. Zoë Heller watched it all go horribly wrong

Plus: Andy Beckett meets Orlan, the self-mutilating artist

And Peter Conrad interviews Roddy Doyle

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



MIGHTY APHRODITE

**NABUCCO** 

THE EXHIBITION GOMA

overview

Woody Allen's fatest comedy is about Lenny (Allen) who tracks down a hooker (Mira Sorvino), the mother of his adopted son. Allen newcomersinclude Claire Bloom and Helena Bonham Carter as Allen's screen wife.

Verdi's third opera arrives at Covent Garden in a production by the talenter Tim Albery (with designs by Antony McDonald) which ruffled feathers at its Weish National Opera premiere in September:

Julian Spalding has created four floors, and 24,000 square feet of what claims to be the largest collection of contemporary art outside London housed in the reveniped Royal Exchange building.

shambles... a hopeless farrago... must be taken in hand before it is too fare.

"An aesthetic and intellectual disaster. The only good thing about GoMA is as location," agreed the Independent on Sunday. "A very quirty and personal.

and yes, accessible, not enough that is first-rate, noted the felegrant. A great addition to Glasgow, sald the Sunday Telegraph. "Clasgow deserves better, one man's folly," concluded

selection... interesting and provocative, said the times. You

lain Gale was incensed. "A.

critical view

EXCELLENT G000 OK 力 POOR

Z

**OEADLY** 

Adam Mars-Jones found the film "patronising" with nothing but "middle-brow competence". "Neither enough laughs nor insights to hold the attention," complained Time Out. Professionally, Woody has the same

pre-occupations as Joe Eszterhas, screenwriter of Basic Instinct and Showgirts," observed the Special "Allen goes into freefall with this comedy of unclear intentions, spring the F7. "Sweet success... we specific still watch with gratifude," avered the Times. "Pretty good value, and!" expertly made, agreed the Guardian.

91 mins. Cert. 15. On release across

London and across the country from

the staging has since been toned down. The booing sadly obscured the magnificence of the performance... gripping singing and acting," cheered the Guardian, "This evening of rare vocal splendour," praised the Times. Samuel Ramey brought distinction to the evening by ignoring all that was going on around him, asserted the F1. Shop paying show-offs to insult talented singers by splattering their

Stephen Walsh found the original

production "a muddle", but much of

half-wit egos over well-loved works, spluttered the Standard, predictably.

the Guardian. At Covent Garden, London WC2 (0171-304 4000) on 17, 19, 22, Royal Exchange Square, Glasgow (0141-331 1854) Mon-Sat 10-5pm Sun 11-5pm. Admission free. 25, 27 April before returning in June.

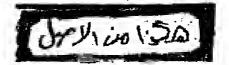
our view

on view

Sorvino bagged the Best Supporting Actress Oscar. Good as she is, it's not really enough.

There were cheers as well as boos. Several critics moaned about Albery but praised the performances. Surely

The annual forecast was 300,000 visitors, but more than 50,000 have been in just two weeks. You can fool some of the people some of the



Tempers are already fraying over the plan to build a giant steel angel in Gateshead. It's the same the whole world over, says Jonathan Glancey. From Soviet mother figures to Jesus of Rio, there's nothing we like more than public art to get in a stew about — that's what it's there for

hat bave the Statue of Liberty, the Eiffel Tower, Jesus of Rio and Anthony Gormley got in common? Size, that's what. Well, size and Art. The Statue of Liberty, the Eiffel Tower and Jesus of Rio are three of the biggest works of public art the world has to show Anthony Gorman, the British synlator, and show. Anthony Gormley, the British sculptor and winner of the Turner Prize, is about to enter this international Big Art Club by casting a vast angel that will spread its voluminous metal wings beside the furiously fast carriageways of the Al at

Naturally, there are those who think Gormley's idea gormless. Waste of money. Stalinist stuff from Arts Council commissars. Better things to spend it on. Who's going to see it anyway? Motorists should have their eyes on the blasted road, not on some arty-

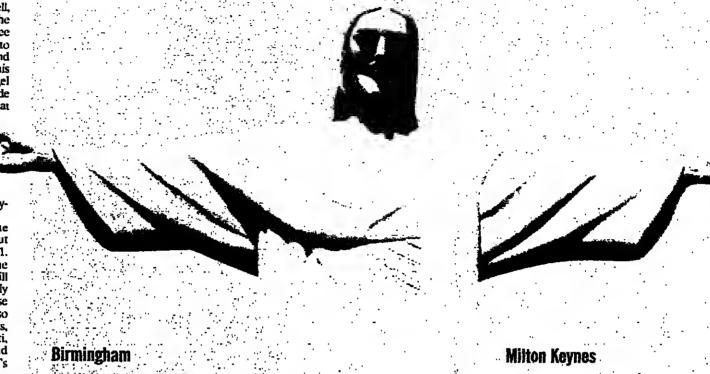
farty angel! Bark. Bark. Bark. In all likelihood, Gormley's angel will become popular and, if not loved, a much-sought-out marker on the long grind up and down the A1. Children, aesthetes, fast-lane reps and even the boys in the hlue-flashing "jam sandwiches" will look out for it and otherwise use its other-worldly presence as a point of reference. Douhtless, those seeking thrills will try to shin up the angel's torso and hungee-jump from its wingtips. Doubtless, too, its mighty feet will be sprayed with graffiti, both mindless and heartfelt. I like it already and all I have seen is a photomontage in this week's newspapers.

Like all vast works of public art, the Gormley angel is bound to be controversial. The leading critics of the day, as well as a livid public, decided to hate the Eiffel Tower when it opened in 1889 as the sculptural highpoint of the great Paris international exhibition of that year. They caved in soon enough and the wonderful and all hut useless tower bas long been a symbol of Paris, of France and of our love of outsized monuments, even though we feel we ought to rail against them on grounds of money and taste.

Those lucky enough to have seen Rio spreading from beneath Christ's welcoming arms or the devastating Victory monument on the edge of Kiev will know, instinctively, that great public art has the power to move us in ways that we do not always like to admit to. A 190ft titanium statue representing the Soviet Motherland (but known locally as "Zheleznaya" or "steel wench") may seem like kitscb on an unnecessarily heroic scale; yet the energetic form of this gigantic metal maiden reminds citizens and visitors alike botb of the 200,000 Kievites who died defending the Ukrainian capital during the Great Patriotic War of 1941-45 and of the confusing twists and turns of political history that bave since turned a failed workers' paradise" into a free-falling free mar-

Such sculptures are soul-stirring, even if somes warms us that by their very sc ambition they are somehow dangerous and almost

But, again, who bas watched the sun rise over the Great Pyramid of Cheops and not been moved? I have nothing but contempt for General Franco, but what confusing thoughts a naturally rebellious Catholic experiences when faced with the cloud-piercing Cross that the spiteful dictator had erected with slave labour at the cold heart of bis Valley of the Fallen, outside Madrid. And what are Alhanians to make, today, of the hideous statue of the Motherland that looms over Tirana? In the long days of Enver Hoxha's dictatorship, before it ended in 1987, the one and only place





duty in the neat suburban fields of : Milton Keynes have long proved to be

Yorkshire Moors



until some artiess nutcase decided to knock their heads off; a problem for public art in lonely settings .

Alhanians could gather freely in any number was at the voluminous hem of Mother Alhania's skirts. This Balkan matriarch is hoth loved and despised, at once a symbol of tyranny and of freedom.

Close up, many great works of public art do not stand up to expert criticism. The Statue of Liberty is justly popular, but quite potty as a work of art. The crossed scimitars clenched in Saddam Hussein's own vastly magnified hands that welcome (is that the right word?) visitors to Baghdad are unforgettable, but verge on the extreme

edge of unlovable kitsch.
I think we like to love and hate monumental public sculpture. Without it, the world of scholarly art critic, puh-hore ("I don't know a lot about art...") and the

rest of us would he a less interesting place. Public art on this scale stirs up latent emotions, causes reaction, nourishes the pages of travel brochures and guide-books. More than even their great temples and cathedrals, we rememher world cities, and even whole regions, by their monuments, from the faces of US presidents carved into Mount Rushmore in North Dakota to strikingly designed electricity pylons striding across boundless landscapes. Public art matters.

The reason that puh bores get so hot under the collar about the idea of spending on public art a minuscule proportion of the money we spend huilding arterial roads is that, while they can under the company of the collapse of the c stand tarmac and cat's-eyes, art is still something of a threat, the stuff of shamans, incomprehensible waffle on smart talk shows and indecipherable

writing in low-circulation magazines.
What they should get hot under the collar about is not public art itself, but the poor quality and low amhition of so much of the stuff that has littered public spaces over the past 20 years. All too often public art is no more than a form of chintzy, cheery wallpaper pasted over the cracks in the design of ugly city centres, a half-embarrassed attempt at redeeming the irredeemable banality of superstores, office complexes and shopping centres. This is the sort of art that Sir Norman Foster once memorahly likened to "lipstick on the face of the gorilla". Or what others have, a little unkindly, called the "token Henry Moore syndrome".

The money spent on this urban wallpaper would be better spent on making beautiful the infrastructure of our towns and cities. Better a fleet of handsome city buses - rolling sculpture - thoughtfully designed and heautifully maintained than a bronze boy hanging on to the tail of a bronze dol-phin in a fountain decorated with discarded soft-

There are several bodies, most notably those such as the Public Arts Commissions Agency and the Public Arts Development Trust, working intelligently and energetically to bring new art into pular focus in Britain's streets and squares. The have a long way to go. Too much public art remains little more than a toy, a prettification of impossibly ugly places carried out in "the chairman's wife chose the boardroom curtains" sort of way.

What people will respond to, and dramatically so, from the bore to the open-minded, is sculpture on a scale that makes an impact, causes us to think and, hopefully, delights or moves us too.

We are often too apologetic, over-reticent in Britain, and make much weedy public art as a result. Anthony Gormley has got the right idea: demonic or delightful, his Angel of the Al should be more welcome to tomorrow's motorists than any number of Happy Eaters, Little Chefs and artful signs to edge-of-town superstores.

### The context in which one sees a picture matters; the proper response is to think about its effects on you

Anthony Gormley's Iron Man stands

monument to all those who bave toiled and

lopsidely, in central Birmingham,

spun in the city once known as the

George Segal's rush-hour crowd (also

miserable bunch designed, perhaps, to make commuters in Broadgate stop to

Workshop of the World

Broadgate, London

Vou couldn't make it up" read an exasperated headline in the Daily Mirror this week. The item it surmounted was very short and it reported that a nude woman had been "axed from a vintage wine label - because American feminists thought it was offensive". The story was picked up elsewhere, too, where it also served as a neat symptom of political correctness. The Times gave a few more details in its Diary: it seemed that Mouton-Rothschild had been obliged to withdraw 30,000 bottles of its 1993 vintage from America after objections to the Balthus drawing of a naked young girl which appeared on the label (Mouton-Rothschild has invited artists to decorate its labels since 1945). The Baroness was said to be surprised by the reaction: "The fragile and mysterious girl Balthus has drawn," she said, "seems to hint at some secret promise of undiscovered pleasure."

"woman", as the Mirror had described her, the pre-pubescent girl lies back, arms behind her head, and legs slightly parted. It is not an obscene pose, but it is not a modest one either (you could readily find its equivalent in any top-shelf magazine). Her impassive gaze is directed at the viewer, suggesting that she knows she is being observed and that it is sexually inviting would be too crude, far cruder than the drawing itself. But that the picture stands on a border between innocence and experience is undeniable.



**THOMAS** 

There was a certain oddity to the complacent press reaction to this story - the general assumption that the feminazis were on the march again - particularly in a week that offered a very different account of the power of images to disturb and affront. Reporting the victory of an independent newsagent in his battle not to be sent unsolicited soft-core porn by WH Smith, most newspapers were hroadly sympathetic - this wasn't political correctness, it seems, hut a moral stand, a proper argument about where and by whom such images should be seen. The superfi-She does indeed. Clearly not a art (to be defended) and the other was porn (indefensible). But looked at more closely the distinction offers Courbet's L'Origine du Monde, an

an X-ray of the prevailing pieties. Usually this century's increasing liberality about artistic subject matter is read as a history of diminishing prudery. Manet's Ohmpia shocked its original audience but could now happily decorate a greetings card. But it would be a mistake chooses not to conceal herself. To say to see this as the triumph of aesthetic values over pinched morality, a protection of art against improper advances. It actually records a retreat, a diminishment of the power of the drawn or painted image. To

things: to protect it from danger or, as in the case of defused bombs, to render it harmless. It's the latter that applies in the case of art.

Some of this is because photographs have greedily absorbed our anxiety about depiction, have occupied all of the limited attention that we can give to such matters (in a finite world we must choose what worries us - and in this century photography has presented a more pressing case). The effect has been that hand-made images, by contrast, have come to carry an idea of innocence or detachment from the real world, that world in which incitement or appetite can so easily smear the purity of our contemplation. At the same time there bas been an accompanying breakdown of any sense of a hierarchy of the spaces in which we look at images, from the private salon cial distinction is obvious - one was to the public gallery, from solitary inspection to mass observation.

Last year, for example, Gustave explicit open-crotch painting of a woman's genitals (head and limbs out of frame), went on show in Paris. It was protected by bulletproof glass and a permanent guard, not, presumably, because it was thought that it might offend artlovers, but for fear of feminist protest. Courbet himself, though, would probably have been astounded that a picture commissioned for the private collection of a Turkisb erotophile would eventually be displayed before a mixed gathering of men, but a perverse sort of victory.

make something safe can mean two women and children. "Today, we cannot remain indifferent to a painting of such intensity," said the French culture minister, but the untroubled display proved precisely the opposite. There were no protests - the inert gas of connoisseurship had rendered the picture impotent.

In one way, then, those who objected to the Balthus drawing on the wine bottle actually pay more honour to his art than those who think the fuss is just a laughable symptom of a new prudery. They at least recognise that the context in which one sees a picture matters, and that the proper response to art is to think about its effects on you, not simply glance and pass on.

It's relatively easy, in fact, to restore some sense of this. Imagine that the Times and the Mirror had learnt that the manager of a children's care home had decorated the interior with reproductions of Balthus's child nudes. The first assumption would not be, I think, that this was simply an expression of good taste or a laudable attempt to bring some beauty into young lives. As it happens, Balthus's paintings are not pornography but they are not simply pretty either - they touch on a peculiarly volatile subject for our society, the sensuality of children, and, unlike Mouton-Rothschild, they do not travel well - they need to be seen in a place where proper attention can be paid to them. In that sense, the Mouton-Rotbschild story isn't an account of a defeat for art,



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> **EVELINA (1778)** by Fanny Burney

Plot: Evelina is 17 and beautiful

falls in love with the courtly Lord Orville. But her relatives

slapstick, and Evelina is stalked by the rakish nincompoop Clement Willoughby, who would be the villain of the

piece were he not such a mess of affectation. Finally, Sir John

to be golden-hearted. Evelina becomes a wealthy heiress,

which assists her marriage to Lord Orville. "I knew not till

fortune to the attainment of respect and civility."

Theme: The exchanges between

Evelina and her guardian are

the moral core of the novel.

Evelina is inexperienced, hut

her Judgements are rooted in

empirical observation. Burney

demonstrates that although

Evelina is free in her judgement, she must conform

of passivity.

to the female stereotype

now," she writes "how

requissite are birth and

Belmont acknowledges his deserted daughter and proves

seep with coarseness and snobbery and indulge in

with "a certain air of mexperience and innocence". Abandoned by her father, she is brought up in the country by her wise and sententious guardian, the Rev Mr Villars. Now of marriageable age, she is invited by a friend of Villars 10 stay in London. Here she learns to mind her p's and q's, and

by Gavin Griffiths

# How to keep Mum

Carol Thatcher's portrait of her father reveals a bumbling little Englander with a surprising streak of clear-sightedness and and an instinct for word damage limitation. By Robert Winder

ne of the greatest mysteries of the Thatcher years was how the Prime Mininster's husband managed to avoid the kind of sar-castic opprobrium that is routinely heaped onto female political consorts such as Glenys Kinnock, Hillary Clinton or Cherie Blair. Denis Thatcher was, after all, a senior industrialist, a union-bashing and socialist-hating director of a multinational company (Burmah Oil); and, as he himself couldn't help pointing out, he knew more about economics than half the Cabinet. Yet for over a decade the media was happy to portray him as nothing more than a Pooterish, pinkgin-and-golf bore in a silly hat, practising his seven-iron on the lawn at Chequers while his wife dealt with the fate of nations indoors.

the unelected hands of a malign, rightwing Rasputin with a sinister line in persuasive pillow-talk. On the contrary, he never seemed like anything more than a long-suffering, henpecked old fogey who didn't want much out of life, just a kip in tront of the tugby and a sharpener before lunch.

Obviously it helped that Mrs Thatcher rarely gave any sign of being susceptible to special pleading from anyione - let alone some dimwit husof Denis as a buffoon through the "Dear Bill" letters. But Denis Thatcher This might seem jaundiced, but Mrs raphy by his daughter makes plain, can take most of the credit for keeping himself out of harm's way, tospired by an old maxim of his father's - "Whales And it allowed Denis to be more perdon't get killed unless they spout" - be made the extremely shrewd decision to entourage of political advisers. In one give no interviews of any sort during his wife's stay in the limelight. When he met knowledge, Denis raises a glass to the the Duchess of York at a dinner and she "whined" about the bad press she always received, he was unsympathetic. "Ma'am," he said. "Has it occurred to you to keep your mouth shut?"

His own vow of silence was followed through with unusual resolve and atten-

FOR LOVERS

From the author of Sucking Sherbet Lemons

MICHAEL CARSON

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When Sir Roger

Casement appears in

the 1990s in a sleepy

Irish village the modern

day miracles begin . .

A rich and poetic

novel of wit, wisdom

and humanity.

Below the Parapet: A Biography of **Denis Thatcher by Carol Thatcher** KarperCollins, £16.99

tion to detail. "Never make speeches longer than four minutes," he wrote, "and prepare them very carefully to ensure that there is no possible quote. This results in the press not ever reporting that you were there at all". Many people would have resented being portrayed as such a twerp, hut Denis has the last laugh here. "Remember that it is bettet to keep your mouth shut and he thought a fool." he advised one would-be consoler, "than open it and remove all doubt".

In one sense it is odd that the nation No one ever suggested that he was pulling strings, calling shots or weaving tricky webs behind the scene; no one ever telt that the country had fallen into man to have a wife more powerful than himself. It was always presumed that Denis must "mind"; in fact, of course. he had one of the most interesting and lively retirements anyone could wish for, and knew it ("For 40 years I have been married to one of the greatest women the world has ever produced".) He was helped by having a clear-sighted and realistic dislike of politics in the first place. "So many politicians," he tells his daughter, "are under the misapprehension that the rest of us think all the time about politics; the truth of the matband. And Private Eye played its part, contributing enjoyably to the depiction a damn. The only people who keep it

> euphoria that followed Mrs Thatcher's third election win and says. "In a year, she'll be so unpopular you won't believe

It is widely suposed that this book is Carol Thatcher's sneaky revenge against her mother. It is true that Mrs T. hardly do it. I did. I pulled the string and it had



start ("It was a U-turn of mega proportions...") she settles into a good, easy stride, and she has used her relationship cleverly. It is hardly an intimate memoir – it doesn't, in fact, feel as if Carol knows her father all that well. But she certainly knows more about his domestic life than any outsider. For some reason, she seems to find her dad's rudeness to waiters a sign of wag-

it away, kill it and cook it. At times like this he is exactly like the man in the "Dear Bill" letters - a pompous old eccentric who disguises his own battiness in an assumption that be is surrounded by twits. But at other times, she uncovers a streak of something so unsentimental and open that it is rather touching. "The war didn't have a traumatic effect on me," he muses, "but I think I'm an insensitive person". And what's more, by jingo, he's

mouth shut and

Photo: Rex

Chief strengths: The book is a patchwork of previous writers. The claustrophobic domesticity of Richardson is given fresh air; Fielding's didacticism is presented more "objectively"; even Smollet's penchant for crude farce is included.

Chief weakness: The men - a dreadful bunch of club bores. The most difficult passages to digest are Evelina's outbursts about her guardian: "With a pleasure that bordered on agony, I embraced his knees."

What they thought of it then: Samuel Johnson thought it was better than Fielding. Gibbon read it in a day, Reynolds and Burke in a night.

What we think of it now: Burney's enthusiastic espousal of quietism poses problems; Richardson is more radical in his view of women's rights.

Responsible for Inspiring Jane Austen, of course.

up with. As soon as Maggie became leader of the Opposition, for instance, she was assigned a security guard. Denis was the last to know. One night he returned to the house in Flood Street and a found a man he took to be a friend himself, as this surprisingly crisp biog- Thatcher was prohably lucky to be of Mark's. "When Margaret arrived, we married to a man with this point of view. started leaving and, bugger me if this Just imagine what she'd have been like chap didn't follow us out. No one told There are numerous moments of asked delegates at a Commonwealth forlorn good humour such as this. Denis was in the hotel suite when Cecil

Parkinson resigned. "Margaret said to him. I'm very unhappy but you've no choice but to get out, otherwise the press will be at you'. He agreed. Then he mentioned that he was due to open the new Blackpool heliport and unvoil a commemorative plaque. Margaret

read. Opened by the Rt Hon Cecil Parkinson...

that a book whose aim is to restore the reputation of Denis should to some One of the reasons why Private Eveloved Denis Thatcher was because he extent amplify what it was he had to put had, not just the well-bugger-me language of the little Englander, but that he also held exactly the kind of narrow prejudices you find in the car park at Twickers. He would refer to the inhabitants of Brixton as fuzzy-wuzzies, but would be mortifed to think that he'd upset them. He was a lover of South Africa, but strikingly unimpressed by uppity, post-colonial types from elsewhere, "Who do you think is worse" he it away bell it and cook it. 'Who do you think is worse," he Conference, "Sonry bloody Ramphal or Ma sodding Gandhi?". India, he thought, was "high on the buggeration factor"; and he was not impressed by the Falkland Islands on his post-victory tour. "We sure as hell didn't go there for the real estate," he said. "It's miles and miles of bugger-all".

It isn't clear, actually, that Carol Thatcher has done ber father too many favours with this book. After an awful

### Audiobooks



**Guiliver's Travels** read by Neville Jason **Rhodes to Home** read by Gary Rhodes

f you were unenlightened as to the point of Jonathan Swift's legendary satire by Channel 4's much-hyped Easter two-parter, you'll enjoy Neville Jason's measured and intelligent reading of the real thing. Guiliver's Travels (Naxos, 4hrs, £7.99) includes Blefescu, Laputa, Luggnagg and the Houyhnhums as well as Lilliput and Brohdingnag adventures, and is much embellished by incidental music by Handel.

Can cookery work on tape? Much of the wince factor in Rhodes to Home (Reed Audio, £7.99) is a case of a perky television cook uneasy without visual prompts. Gary wastes valuable seconds insisting on how good everything is going to be, then glosses over the trickier manoeuvres involved. But this made mouth-watering listening on the way to Tesco's, and a useful booklet of ingredients is included.

Christina Hardyment

NEW AUTHORS. PUBLISH YOUR WORK ALL SUBJECTS CONSIDERED

### Cockpits and casting couches

He was a film mogul, flyer, hermit and syphilitic. Godfrey Hodgson reads the history of Howard Hughes

OF EXQUISITE when I'm gone", said Howard Hughes, dying in Acapulco, with festering bedsores un-FICTION tended on his back and an income of \$75,000 an hour, "the biographers are going to flock around, and I don't want them to dwell on the girls and From the author of Knowledge of Angels the movies. I want to be remembered

JILL PATON WALSH

A SCHOOL FOR LOVERS

Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutte

and a contemporary love

story are ingeniously

interwoven in this

elegant and witty novel.

BLACK 🎉 SWAN

for only one thing - my contribution Fat chance. The biographers have flocked, and it is on the girls and the movies that they have dwelled most levingly. Few biographies of aviators come equipped, as this one does, with a five-page list of their sexual con-quests and near-misses, in alphabet-

This is an anthology of Holly-wood's finest, from Carla Balenda ("Real name, Sally Bliss", probably platonic) by way of Joan Crawford, Bette Davis, Yvonne de Carlo, Olivia de Havilland, and Ava Gardner, all through to Jane Russell ["Mean, moody, magnificent") Lana Turner ("the Sweater Girl") and the sumptuously named debutante, Gloria Vanderbilt

Philip Larkin was ill-informed. course was well-established a generation before 1963. But there is nothing quite so tedious as lists of sexual conquests. Hughes's paychopathologia sexualis is not altogether uninteresting, though, just because he was so emzy. Brown and Broeske dignify his hrand of insane creeps: "3.10cm. Tell Mr Hughes I'm hullving with the term "Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder", which is as and I'm going to hed." good a name as any other. Disorder

it certainly was. Hughes was a caricature of the oldstyle phallocrat. Although he kept company with some highly independent women, such as Ava Gardner and Katharine Hepburn, he was into imprisonment and harems. He used to have his people ship in "starlets". Somewhere along the way, in spite of courage of a psychopath, and went on



Hughes: the syphilitic sultan

the fresher the better, from the Mid West and points south. They were warehoused, coiffed, styled and given elocution lessons until ready for the perial custing couch.

He even communicated for months on end with one of his wives. the good-natured Jean Peters, by telephone alone. He had her installed in one hungalow in a Beverly Hills gar-den while he was living in another, However long it took to catch on in and he rented six other accommo-Hull, in Hollywood sexual inter- dations for spies, goons, gofers and

body-servants. These creeps, most of them Mormons, supplied him with written reports on what his wife was up to ("At 852 am. JP ordered one coffee, 2 milk and papers".) Peters had to communicate with her husband through the same sick and tired of waiting for him to call

Hughes was terrified of germs. He not only insisted that everything that came near him be handled in wads of Kleenex, he issued lengthy instructions on how to pick things up with it. "If you need to lower the scat," he told Jean Peters when escorting her to the movies, "do it with Kleenex."

**Howard Hughes:The Untold** Story by Brown and Broeske Little, Brown, £20

this cleanliness fetish (which seems to have been encouraged by his over-protective mother), the authors believe that Hughes contracted syphilis. They say it had reached the tertiary stage (dementia and locomotor atecae) by the time he was in

The pox would account for some of the craziness of his later years, but the explanation is not wholly convincing. For one thing, although the Mormon creeps kept him in an inert state with massive doses of codeine and valium, when it suited them (when, say, they needed him to sign some papers), they would cut off the dosage and the poor old man would perk up. They would cut his falthy beark and have a barber trim his falthy beard, cut his talon-like finger and toenails, and he would do the business, sometimes even coming up with some fancy engineering mathematics. Then they would hit him with the codeine and valium, and it would be the hairy hermit of Acapulco - or Las Vegas or the

Bahamas – all over again. If Hughes was in some ways a monster, he also possessed something of that combination of intelligence, energy and self-centred determination we call genius. His father invented an ingenious rockbit for oil drilling and Howard Jr inherited a vast income derived from Hughes Tool. But he really did make a major contribution to aviation. He was obsessed with flight from an early age, and even before he had a pilot's licence had assembled the world's biggest acrial navy to shoot the war movie, Hell's Angels. He had the

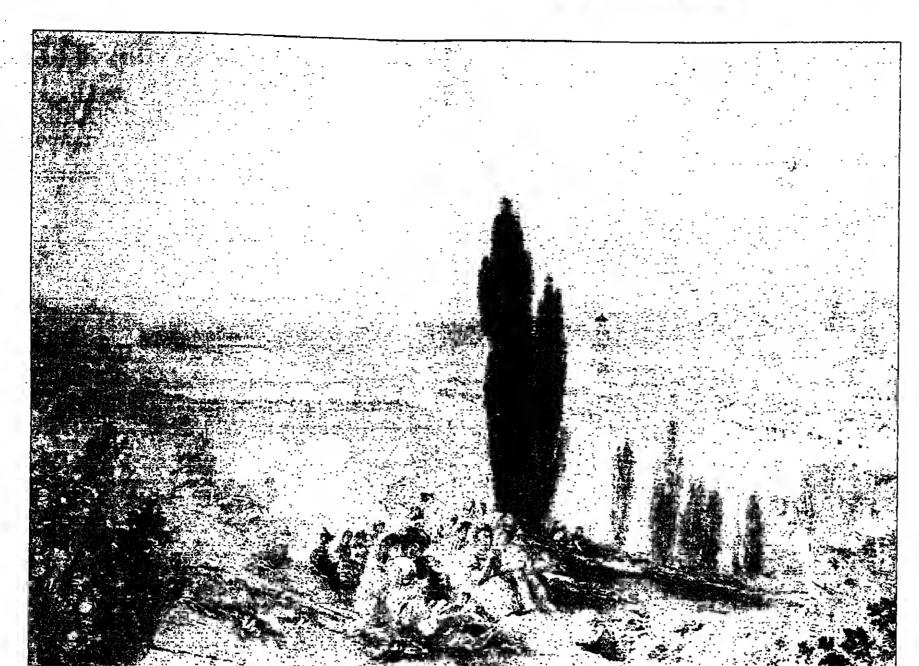
flying after numerous crashes, two of which did damage to his tall, lanky body that would have killed most

He set new records for flying across the US, then around the world. He created the airline TWA. In the Second World War, he built Hughes Electronics into the biggest supplier of weapons systems to the US navy and air force. He designed and test-flew the legendary "Spruce Goose", a giant wooden aircraft, He invented the air-to-air missile. He invented, then mass-produced, the "all-weather interceptor" fighter, and designed the navigation system for the F-102. He virtually invented the battle helicopter, and pioneered unmanned satellites.

Finally, he was involved in secret business with the CIA and other hush-hush agencies, including a scheme to lift a Soviet submarine from the bed of the Pacific. There is, too, a sense in which Watergate was "about" Howard Hughes. He gave large amounts of money to Richard Nixon, some of it undeclared cash to finance dirty tricks. Brown and Broeske do not delve

very deeply into Hughes' involve-ment in Watergate, nor do they unravel in any very satisfactory way his business history. They only sketch in various intrigues by the Mormon creeps to take advantage of Hughes's illnesses, natural and artificially induced, to take over his industrial empire and his vast other assets. They make a valiant effort to obey the crazy dtan's dying wish and write about his contribution to aviation, but you sense their hearts are not wholly in it.

They are in their element, though, when it comes to dope and broads, machinating Mormons, and the syphilitic sultan's Hollywood harem. Read all about it!



# A stylish scurry across the Arno

The British have always loved Florence. George Bull enjoys a celebration of the jewel of Chiantishire

Florence: A Portrait by Michael Levey, Cane, £25

he Florentines, like the English, have tended to think themselves special to God, even when he was chastising them. Writing his life of Michelangelo, the incomparable art historian Giorgio Vasari grandiloquently reported that, seeing that Tuscan arts of painting, sculpture and architec- ential Florentines, thinkers, artists and Michelangelo born a Florentine, so that one of her own citizens might bring to absolute perfection the achievements for

which Florence was justly renowned".

The Florentines and the English, moreover, have long displayed mutual admiration and regard, the former welcoming a long line of often conveniently rich expatriate English eccentrics, and (if well-off themselves) habitually employing English nannies, the latter eventually coming after the days of the Grand Tour to appreciate art in Florence and to prize the city as the cradle of the Renaissance. A unique treasury of Western art and one of the most beautiful cities in the world, Florence need not fret about being ignored by non-Tuscan Italians, for the English love her still, have created "Chiantishire" to be near ber, and now offer a glowing tribute from one of their subtlest, most literate art historians.

Michael Levey's "portrait" of Florence is a true travail de longue haleine, and the reader must take it slowly or soon grow breathless. Concentration as well as stamina is needed, as if on a real-life scurry through the city trying to take in Duomo, Bargello and Palazzo Vecchio, the Uffizi, San Lorenzo and the riches across the Arno; the art, painting and architecture, in large perspective and fine detail. Levey sets Florence, of its physical development and political vicissitudes as these transformed the city between the Trecento and now, and of its variegated artistic achievements.

He says, simply and boldly, that the book "is deliberately not purely a historical account, nor... an outline of Florentine art through the ages, and still less is it a guide-book. But it partakes of all three categories of approach, mingling them as history and art are mingled in the city. I recognise that at times such mingling may create some bewilderment...". Well, yes, they do, and yes, the "Selective Chronology" does, as Levey hopes, provide a "handrail" for the reader shaky on facts; but Levey carries it off because of the insights he provides, looking with a keen and educated eye into the splendours and delights of art and pictures, statues, buildings, and objets d'an of Florence.

Over the years, the erstwhile director of the National Gallery has written with perception and enthusiasm on Early and High Renaissance painting, on French and Venetian painting in 18th-century Venice, on Ottoman art, and significantly on his favourites, Tiepolo and Mozart. The story of Florence happily lets Levey hring Mozart into the picture (as composer of La Clemenza di Tuo, written in 1787 to cel-

Leopoldo, Grand Duke of Tuscany) and Tiepolo, as painting in Venice the same out to convey a sweeping historical view of subject that Vincenzo Meucci showed about the same time in Florence (in a "pretty, powder-puff rococo ceiling decoration"). In general, Levey demonstrates genius had always been pre-eminent in the a series of halanced appreciations of influin his scholarly writing the qualities of sprematura exemplified by both of his idols.

> political history of Florence which cannot he faulted and which every so often is more than just a summary of other scholars' work. At its best in this context, the book in its last few pages - an Epilogue on the "revolution of taste which brought back to a central place in cultural con-sciousness the art of 15th-century Florence, and that of earlier centuries" informatively connects to the "thrilling cause" of the Risorgimento a little genre painting by Odoardo Borrani of a seated girl sewing the three-coloured flag of Italy, with the date of 26 April 1859, when the last Grand Duke quit Florence for ever. Politics and art can't be always linked so neatly, but Levey succeeds in interweaving his material from the different strands of Florence's history smoothly enough. On politics, he often has interesting and fresh things to say - as when he marvels, not that the "precariously balanced, partly undefined system of government" of Cosimo, Piero and Lorenzo de Medici came abruptly to an end when the French invaded Italy in 1494, hut that it had managed to endure so long. On Tuscan literature, he writes with easy

Florence lacked the famous and familiar sence and approximated, in its heavenprotected antiquity, to the poet's own expressed ideal of a city living in "peace,

sobriety and decency".

The interest of Michael Levey's attractively illustrated (if inadequately indexed) a of a book ultimately from his informed and enthusiastic descriptions of its glorious pictures, statues and buildings. Invariably he brings this art vividly to life, placing it firmly in context, and often as not boldly declaring whether or not it is novel or fresh or revolutionary. Michelangelo's Doni tondo, for instance -"the essentially sculpted group of Virgin, Child and St Joseph... lit with dazzling clarity and set in a rocky landscape where naked youths, half-athletes, half-bathers, strangely lounge" - invites Levey's com-ment: "Nothing like it had been painted before in Florence..." Again, of Michelangelo's statues of the Capitani in San Lorenzo, Levey affirms: "Never before in a Christian religious environment had any men been raised at death to the status of

a demi-god..." This is not the stuff of guidebooks, certainly, but Levey's portrait of Florence is crammed with information to interest and hemuse the tourist as well as the student. He would make a marvetlous guide to his beloved Florence, and would be forgiven for occasionally dragging in British politics and for introducing Michelangelo's universal David as a "gay icon".

### Tracking the secret of King Lear's letters

Did Shakespeare's audiences see the same plays as us? By Lachlan Mackinnon

toricists want to place literary texts in the context of social history, to show how they form part of a larger documentary continuum in which early modern ideas about selfhood emerged, and were enacted, in the courtroom as much as in the playhouse. The aim is not simply to show how a contemporary audience might have understood poems or plays, but to demonstrate a continuity between literary and non-literary concerns. The nine essays in Lisa Jardine's new book exemplify some aspects of New Historicist practice.

The most interesting is "Reading and the Technology of Textual Affect", which draws together Erasmus's views on the writing of letters and the extraordinary number of letters exchanged in King Lear. Professor Jardine shows that Erasmus saw the familiar letter as "controlled expression of feeling" and mistrusted the "raw emotion"

Renaissance literary scholar-ship over the last 10 years or so has been the rise of what is called the New Historicism. New His-This understanding was inherited by Shakespeare's contemporaries.

in different styles. Professor Jardine's point is more subtle, though, because it relates letter-writing to the establishment of community between individuals. The Erasmian letter is an honest substitute historical void", whereas Shakefor being personally present, but speare's audience would have been when Goneril, for instance, asks her villainous servant Oswald Have you writ that letter to my sister?", we see that the ideal of per-

rhetorical expertise, to the destruction of community.
Professor Jardine argues that Shakespeare's audience, having these ideas about letters, valued the

Essays in Appreciation by Christopher Ricks Clarendon Press, £25

At first sight, it seems pretty which, she says, is all the honest obvious that letters are conscious characters have left. A modern rhetorical constructs; we address audience, however, responds more our lovers and our bank managers immediately to pure feeling because we do not expect truth to be expressed rhetorically. "Like Gloucester and Edgar, we experience with immediacy that raw emotional intensity in a moral, social and appalled by the loss of emotional control those characters undergo. For them, that was the tragedy.

Generalisations about Shakesonal candour has been replaced by speare's audience are, of course, usually deeply unhelpful and often patronising, suggesting as they invariably do that the past was a little dimmer and a lot less various than the present. I find it hard to strongly and unanimously inter- seem much more boring than usual, toricist writing.

nalised Erasmus's commentary on a letter of St Jerome or its assumptions, after all, as Professor Jardine points out, Lear himself does not share that understanding.

None the less, this essay is valuable on two counts. First, it undoubtedly shows a response which was possible for some of Shakespeare's audience, and one which is now unfamiliar. Secondly, without saying so, it returns us to the perennial mystery of Shake-speare's own relation to language. the radical scepticism which explains why we find in him no authorial commitment to the view that one utterance is more true simply dramatic reasons, inevitably than another. In that sense, though, Shakespeare's understanding is wider than Professor Jardine's.

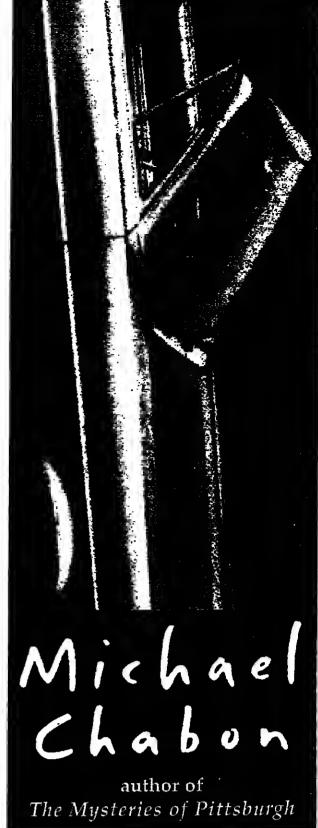
The other essays in this book deal with Othello, Hamlet, Twelfili Night, Marlowe's The Jew of Malta Changeling. In each case, Jardine

but the others more interesting.

Dealing with The Jew of Malta. for instance, Professor Jardine hrilliantly demonstrates that Barabas, the central figure, encapsulates a number of contemporary concerns about early capitalism for which a Jew was the necessary contempo-rary embodiment. For once, the play seems much more than a fascinating cartoon.

In the same essays though, she attacks The Merchant of Venice because Shakespeare's presentation of Shylock as "pathologically greedy, deceitful, vengeful and inhumane", whether or not this was for engages us "against his generalised person, his alienness and his creed".

She comes close to arguing that Marlowe was more aware than Shakespeare, which seems implausible, while the reading of The and Middleton's and Rowley's The Merchant as anti-semitic is simplistic. Such slack moments mean relates the plays to evidence drawn that this book is, in the end, confrom social history. The odd effect siderably less than the sum of its believe that the groundlings had so is that the Shakespearian texts parts - like all too much New His-



wondered if perhaps it were all dawning on him at last; if he were beginning to realise that, having engaged, the night before, in activities as diverse as being dragged bodily and giggling from a crowded auditorium, committing grand larceny, and getting a hand job in a public place, he was now on his way to spend Passover, of all things, with the family of his dissolute professor's estranged wife, in a dented Ford Galaxie within whose trunk lay the body of a dog he had killed.'

# Wonder Boys

'A superb creation, a raucously comic yet deeply lyrical work. Chabon has evolved into a seriously funny writer, a master of the comic set-up.' SUNDAY TIMES

Reminiscent of early John Irving with flashes of William Boyd, Wonder Boys is highly accomplished and great fun.' **Q** MAGAZINE

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# Love in the afternoon

Doris Lessing's first novel for eight years is a subtle vignette of late middle-aged passion. Louise Doughty finds her in top form

Il writers and reviewers should read Doris Lessing's own preface to her wotld-famous bestseller The Golden Notebook. In it, Lessing admits to losing het sense of perspective about critical opinion when her masterwork was published. "Recovering bal-ance, I understood the problem, It is that writers are looking in the critics for an alter ego, that other self mote intelligent than oneself who has seen what one is reaching for. and who judges you only by whether you have matched up to your aim or not." New novelists should have those words tatlooed on their

Love Again is Lessing's first novel for eight years and its aim could be colloquially distilled as the desire to prove that there's life in the old dog yet. She has partially succeeded, both in terms of demonstrating her own writing skill and in the presentation of her subject matter, a convincing portrayal of an elderly, secure and intelligent woman failing comprehensively and fruitlessly in love with not one

hut two much younger men. Sarah Durham, "a good name for a sensible woman", is a sixtysomething theatre manager, comfortable in her comfortable home and at ease with her joh at The Green Bird, the successful fringe theatre where she has worked for years. Widowed when young, she has raised two children on her own and remained cheerfully inviolate to the arrows of romantic passion ever since. The only persistent cloud on her life has been Joyce, het trouhled teenaged niece, who hangs out on the streets with prostitutes and drug addicts and turns up at het aunt's place once in a while to have a hot bath and pinch some jewellery.

Joyce is only a minot character

by Doris Lessing Flamingo, £15.99

bul her presence tesonates throughout the book, a salutary reminder that youth is not all sunbathing in hikinis and romping in the long grass. Without het the novel would be much more routine.

The main narrative strand is based on the Green Bird's latest production, a play about a turn of the century artist and musician called Julie Vairon. A social outcast during her lifetime. Julie is now an icon - particularly to Stephen Ellington-Smith, an aristocratic patron of the arts who is "angel" to The Green Bird's production, first in France, then in the grounds of his English country manor. The chatacter of Stephen is the hook's big problem. He is obsessively in love with the long-dead Julie and a walking example of the havoc love can wreak in those unused to its ravages. But his obsession is underway long before the book begins and we never really understand its genesis.

Sarah's passions are much more concrete as she falls firstly for Bill, the play's handsome juvenile lead, and then Henry, its director. Both men are young enough to be het sons and Bill, in particular, is spectacularly unworthy of her affections. Sarah's awareness of this is her chief redeeming feature. Even in the throes of sexual longing, she never loses her sense of how ridiculous the whole thing is. Once Bill has kicked open the door of her carefully preserved self-containment, the floodgates are open and Henry



Doris Lessing: theories of love and messy practicalities

Photograph: Jeremy Nicholl

the reader - never mind Sarah eithet of these amours. Lessing's subject matter is the theory of love as much as its messy practicalities. (She quotes so many authors and songwriters on the topic that it is hard to avoid the suspicion she has riffled a dictionary of quotations). In the same way, there is little sense of the economic realities of running a theatte. Lessing has a thousand people turn up fot an open-air dress rehearsal of Julie Vaiton in a remote rural area of France - and

the fact that there is no banked her own newly-acquired emotional that she never gets to consummate seating or amplification. What she vulnerability but comes away withdoes capture - quite brilliantly - is the joyous self-absorption of a group of people all bent on the same attistic endeavour - the instant bondings, the sexual len-sions and the claustrophobia.

In many ways, the most inter-esting relationships in the book are the non-romantic ones. There is an excoriating pottrayal of Hal, Sarah's awful Harley Street hrother, father to the unfortunate Joyce. At one point, Sarah visits It is profoundly disappointing for they all go away enraptured despite their mother to try and understand thought and feeling.

out an answer. We are left to speculate about the extent to which the seeds of romantic destruction are sown during childhood. In a scene of intense, almost painful insight, Sarah witnesses a harassed mother cruelly ignoring her toddler daughter in a park and a kaleidoscope of possibilities about Sarah's own, unexploted childhood opens up. It is n wonderful moment in a book which, for all its imperfections, is full of fine

# Portrait of the artist as cinematographer

Gilbert Adair is entranced by Kundera's latest tricks to mimic time and motion

Milan Kundera's new novel Slowness was pub-lished in French (the language in which, for the first time in its author's career, it was composed) exactly a year ago, more or less simultaneously with the release of the film Speed. The choice was therefore a plain and unambiguous one: speed or slowness? A film which, predicated on the notion that speed, that emblematic symbol and symptom of modernity, was in itself an unequivocally good thing, hurtled towards its denouement with the inflexible singlemindedness of an arrow which, were it to be distracted by anything on its trajectory, would miss its Epicurean delight in taking one's own sweet time, which toasted "those loafing heroes of folk song, those vagabonds who roam from one mill to another and bed down under

the stars"? Such a juxtaposition is apler than one might have expected, since, if it reads not at all like a putative film treatment, the narrative of Slowness does possess a dreamily digressive, faintly filmic feel, most teminiscent of that of Renoir's La Regle du jeu or Resnais's La Vie est un roman. Its present tense (for this is a fiction of multiple tenses, some of them, so to speak, condi-tional) is set in a chateau in France to which Kundera himself and his wife Vera motot down for a brief break. (The chateau, like so many, has been recycled into

a hotel). Along the way, however, he thinks of 'another jourlished, anonymously, in 1777. That, in turn, segues seamlessly into a commentary on Les Liaisons Dungereuses and the true meaning of the word "hedonism", which (we are now inside the hotel itself) reminds him of a friend. Vincent, and his unconditional adulation of the intellectual Pontevin, which prompts reflections on the whole phenomenon of the imageobsessed media pundit.

which then.... I could go on. And I perSlowness by Milan Kundera Faber, £12.99

figure out how he does it. Like all of Kundera's books, Slowness modulates between past and present, between fiction and fantasy, between memoir and essay, but with so slyly agile-footed a grace, so mercurial an insouciance, it seems almost never to touch the ground. (The exceptional limpidity and refinement of the prose may be a function of the fact that, writing fiction in what is for him a foreign language, Kun-dera has further simplified target? Or a novel which cel-ebrated the self-teasingly Is it a novel set in the eighhis nevet overly-fancy style). teenth century illumined by digressions from the twentieth, or vice versa? It is impossible to say.

He walks his memories and musings around the estate of that chateau (a house and its park, interior and exterior - again, it occurs to one, the ideal cinematic space) as apparently idly as if he were walking a cocker spaniel before turning in for the night, and we follow him,

slavishly, everywhere. There are sharp, satirical vignettes en route, all of them rebuking the modern world fot its bullying hypocrises. Walching the agony of starving Somalian children on television, Vera asks het husband, "Are there old people dying in that country as well?" An intellectual (whose name, Berck, if spoken aloud, is French for

Yuk") ponders on whether to kiss an Aids sufferer at a charity dinner. Called upon ney from Paris oul to a coun- to speak at a scientific semitry chateau", that made by nar, a long-oppressed Czech the two protagonists of entomologist forgets himself Vivant Denon's lihertine in the emotion of the novella Point de lendemain moment, speaks instead (or No Tomorrow), first pubabout his own, newly-won freedom of speech, happily regains his seat and only then realises to his mortificalion that he has quite forgotten to deliver his prepared paper on the Musca

pragensis. Reaching its satisfying conclusion after only 132 pages, Slowness can after all claim some kind of narrative speed. Not the breakneck pace of Speed, though, but that, rather more perilous. of an electric fan into whose seemingly inoffensive halo haps ought to, for I have to one would be ill-advised to confess that I simply cannot insert one's hand.

### Piers and pie and Pinkie's heir

Chris Paling wrote his first novel commuting between Brighton and London. The second tackles the home turf. By Christopher Hawtree

must plead guilty to manufacturing this Brighton of mine as I nevet manufactured Mexico ot Indo-China." So said Graham Greene of a novel which, 60 years on, keeps such a grip on the imagination that visitors to the coastal resort are invariably disappointed by the reality of a provincial town choc-a-hlock with buses ferrying people to the suburbs in time for high tea.

This has not prevented periodic anempts at The Great Brighton Novel. With his second novel, close on the heels of the admirable debut After the Raid, Chris Paling has come up with something which might have resulted had David Cook written Pulp Fiction. In his first novel, Paling created a wartime

world strung somewhere between reality and madness, one in which the mind scliffs of fall were as vivid as the railway carriages, asylum and terraced houses through which its troti-

bled hero appeared to pass. Deserters, told some while after the rather more strung out. He has fetched up in Brighton and, needs must, moved in with Barry, the proprietor of a tarted-up greasy spoon. Before long, Cliffie is also in thrall to the disturbed May, a lodget in the place. Cliffie decides to spirit her out, and so begins something of a Waller-and-June odyssey, one which has both hoodlums and officialdom on their trail after a fracas on the Pier and their stint in Lewes gool.

Deserters by Chris Paling Cape. £14.99

event by a bisexual wastrel, Cliffie, is rather more strung out. He has child. Of a certain Mr. Hollinger we are told, "I'd never considered him to be a proper first division villain. He had too much intelligence for that. Pure villainy requires a good deal more mental instability." Such pithy remarks fill the novel as Cliffic and May find it safer to separate and (after some nasty dealings that make Cliffie fearful fot his lips) he ends up with a

from Clittie's point of view. Early on, he observes, for example, that "the darkness allows you to take a slice of the room and own it for a moment before passing on and finding another, until all of the room is yours." This authorial voice keeps creeping into Cliffie territory. "There's something haughty and fem-inine about the town. It's unforgivably ugly and new in too many places bul there's still enough life in the lofty old harlot for her to throw het skirts round you and haul you close for a something of that distinct view of the long slow dance." That, surely, is the

The story is not consistently told never see that. The place is a hitch to the day tripper, they're corralled down the worst dog-shit-laden streets, the poorest fattiest restaurants, the most expensive pubs with the dirtiest glasses. But it serves them right,"

Just as Brighton town councillors were once alarmed by signs ("Buy Brighton Rock") which inadvertently advertised Greene's novel, they will doubtless distance themselves from Paling's view of the place. That would be blinkered of them. Whatever the faults of the novel's shifting tone, is has world which made one certain that the legend-conscious voice of Paling, who then slips into this, more akin to author of After the Raid is among the most accomplished English novelists Cliffie: "People who come for the day to emerge in recent years.

### Paperbacks -

Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst

Domino by Ross King (Minerva, £5.99) Eighteenth century London is brought dizzingly alive in Ross King's first novel, a peculiar mystery featuring a beady-eved casttato and a hapless young portrait painter. Set adrift amongst "Persons of Quality" and overperfumed fops, the innocent George Cautley comes to discover that London's beau monde is an insubstantial and deceptive place to want to be. King's prose sniffs oul London's darker street-corners

with a doggedness to match Peter Ackroyd's.

Steepers by Lorenzo Carcalerra (Arrow, £5.99) Lorenzo Carceterra's "true story" reads like a treatment for a Martin Scorcese script. It's 1967, New York is Hells Kitchen, and fout young hoys, Lorenzo, Michael, Johnny and Tommy spend their summer stealing comic books. sitting under water hydrants and running jobs for "King Benny", until an incident with a runaway hot dog cart sets events of a more sinister kind in motion. A big best seller in the States ... but what with Catholic priests, Italian hoods, and little boys, how could Carcaterra go wrong?

Small g: a Summer Idyli by Patricia Highsmith (Penguin, £4.99) Highsmith's last novel, but one thal might disappoint even her most devoted fans. Set in a small har in Zurich and with an unusually messy cast of characters (including a performing pet poodle by the name of Luiu), the book doesn't have the power and momentum of Carol, the authot's previous gay novel. But some delicious Highsmithesque touches still remain; good food features prominently on the bar's menu, and a club-footed seamstress casts her malevolent eye over the summet's proceedings.



Hemingway's Chair by Michael Palin (Mandarin, £5.99) Martin Sproat lives a double life. By day he works as assistant manager of Theston Post Office, by night he transforms himself into his boutbon-slugging hero. "Papa" Hemingway. And just as well, as the time to kick ass has come.
Palin's gentle satire on the perils of Post Office privatisation is a study in physical comedy (people are always wearing peculiar sandals, or geting trapped in small curs) and untidy passions. An airport book worth picking up.

London at War 1939-1945 by Philip Zieglet (Mandarin. £6.991 This absorbing history is packed with detail. Even before hostilities commenced. Covent Garden's valwart response to Czech victimisation was a production of Smetana's The Bartered Bride, unfortunately in German. As bombs tained down, one general praised the "little tarts' who continued to ply for trade. There is much humour amid the drama. "Halt or I'll fire." cried a Home Guard. "Fire," came the response. It was a fireman attempting to put out a blaze in the guard's harracks.

Letters Vol 1: 1926-1954 by John Beljeman (Minerva, £7,99) Edited with exemplary skill by his daughter, this bumper haul reminds us what a treat old Betje was. The contents are more savage and selfconfident than might have been expected. On his hrief spell as prep school mastet: "how I loathe them all". On his fathet: "it makes me sick to think of him". Despite occasional hints of the melancholia which dogged his later years, the overwhelming impression is one of hilarity. Illustrated with the author's scratchy matginalia.

this is the funniest collection of letters since Waugh's.

The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire Vol I by Edward Gibbon (Penguin, £15) Despite its awesome bulk and towering reputation. Gibbon's magnum opus is engagingly readable (one devotee is Rolling Stone Keith Richard). This first volume takes the story up to the last pagan emperor in the 4th century, including a detour in time for a swipe at the early Christians I'it was not in this world that the primitive Christians were desirous of making themselves either agreeable or useful").

The Decline and Fall of the British Aristocracy hy David Cannadine (Papermac, £15) Gihhon's ringing phrase is only half proven in this acclaimed panorama of the posh. Cannadine demolishes the notion that the nobility were scythed down in the First World War - 80 per cent returned from the front. More significant was increased urhanisation and the "dilution of select society" by the ptedatory new rich. And the aristocracy has yet to fall. Despite the entertaining examples of dissipation given here, it remains lenacious in its own interests.

The Penguin Encyclopedia of Crime by Oliver Cyriax (£9,99) One of the oddest reference books in recent years, but also creepily enthralling. Cyriax (a great name for a villain), has an idiosynctatic approach to his murky subject matter. Successive entries include: Kidnapping, invention of: Kidney, human; Kids, etack; Killer bimbos, As well as potted accounts of causes celebres, he delves into arcane areas ranging from treadwheels to "Dolphins, sex with", Not for the faint-heatted, this hook is rich in hlack humour.



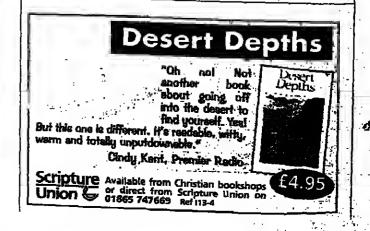
### Who's reading whom

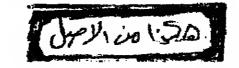


Douglas Adams, creator of 'The Hitch-hiker's Guide to the Galaxy', has been weighing the evidence for man's earliest origins

m a voracious reader but as a result books get haif finished or huried in a pile beneath the hed. One that has escaped this fate is Colin Tudge's The Duy Before Yesterday (Cape) which traces human evolution from 5 million years ago until the present day. I would have welcomed a starting point of 7 million years ago to discuss the thorny issue of "aquatic" apes - which may be one of the explanations for our hairless, hi-pedal, and

perspiratory states, 10 say nothing of the strangely partitioned larynx - if only because it puts anthroplogists into such a rage. Instead Tudge, a zoologist, is careful to give a fair and general account of the likely course of events based on fossil evidence and scientific proof. He does this with the conversational tone that a number of science writers have now mastered. but I have never read such a clear and cogent account of the proceedings.





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# Everyone loves a Bentley owner

So why do Rolls-Royce drivers get so much grief? It's all down to the grille, apparently. By Jonathan Glancey

ich bitch," he said. And all my friend was doing was filling up her £6,995 car at a petrol station in Derby. And, no, she was not dressed in mink, nor even in Prada. This friend, an astronomer, his neither rich nor a hitch. The reason that the man in the garage filling up his hrand new Ford Escort alongside felt it his right to insult her was because of the particular £6,995 car she drives.

Uoable to afford the new Renault Clio 1.4 she had toyed with when courting the bank for a loan, she settled for a two-tone green 1970 Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow instead.

The car had been fully serviced and well looked after. It was over 25 years old and so there was no road tax to pay, and, surprisingly, a decent Rolls-Royce is not a particularly expensive car to run. Of course, they are a

touch on the thirsty side, but they make up for this by being famously reliable.

A Silver Shadow might be big, yet it is a doddle to drive, easy to park, relaxing in all road conditions and sexy in a Jayne Mansfield kind of way. It cruises sedately at anything up to an illegal 100mph and is hliss around town: its gracious, old world manner almost insists that you drive it like a lady.

The only trouble is the way other drivers treat the owner of a Rolls-Royce. In Tonhridge Wells, Harrogate and Edinburgh (gen-teel places all), the hig car is a red rag to hullnecked, green-faced drivers. And, should a young woman be seen to step down from behind the large, thin steering wheel of a Rolls-Royce, hull-necked, green-faced drivers appear to have a licence to hurl Anglo-Saxon abuse at her.

Up until the Seventies, this sort of thing happened but rarely. A Rolls-Royce was seen as a beautifully crafted and elegant, all-British motor car - a sort of mechanical Union Jack, that deserved nothing hut praise. Con-demnation set in when Rolls-Royces, for better or worse, became associated with Middle Eastern oil money, get-rich-quick builders and fast-huck, fly-by-night property developers in the Seventies and Eighties.

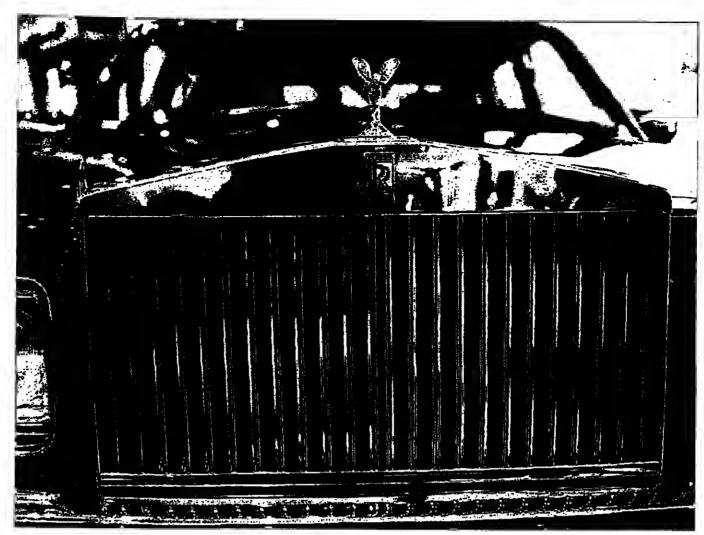
Since then, Rolls-Royce has had an image problem and has been working hard to reassociate the car with notions of dignity as well as "loadsamoney" success. And yet today it is possible to go out and huy a fine second-hand Silver Shadow for well uoder

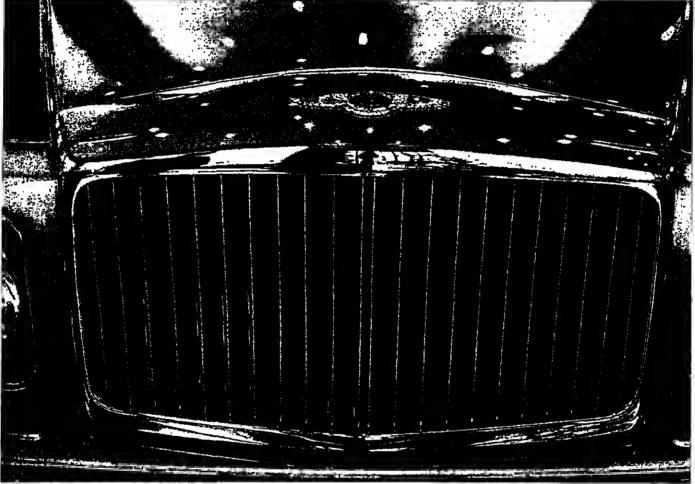
These cars, whatever the imagination says, were not all painted Cartland pink or biological washing-powder white, nor were they all fitted with gold bonnet mascots. What they did all have, however, was that grille. For, if anything symbolises Rolls-Royce it is that famous hand-crafted, stainless-steel radiator grille. Fashiooed to mimic the façade of a Greek or Roman temple, it has long been precisely the right gesture for a car designed to be parked outside the oohle Palladian porticoes of grand country houses.

And this, sadiy for my friend, is what can bring out the worst in people. I took my friend's Silver Shadow out for a spin and my experience was no different from hers. Drivers of vans and souped-up tin-boxes outside central London (a Rolls-Royce is a common sight in Town) cut me up with ahandon, refused to let me into lines of traffic when turning out of husy junctions, raced off alongside me at amber traffic lights and raised a crude "finger" as they hlazed away in a costly trail of sizzling rubher and hlue smoke. When I stopped to fill up in a garage on the edge of Watford, a pair of fat men in dayglo leisure wear stepped from a shiny Ford Granada to let me know I was a "rich bastard".

The very next day, I hegan a glorious week's motoring, Toad-style, thanks to Rolls-Royce, in a brand-new and brutally handsome £187,300 Bentley Continental R. This mighty beast can charge up to 150mph with astonishing ease and can out-accelerate all hut the fastest supercar exotica. If any car can be said to hide an iron fist in a velvet glove, then this is it. The Bentley is quite simply magnificent, a truly memorable meeting of gentleman's club, Avro Lancaster, Gresley Pacific and the sort of heroic engineering Isamhard Kingdom Brunel would have taken his stovepipe off to.

The Bentley really does command the road; you will never feel safer nor grander when out





mixed grille: Rolls-Royce (above) and Bentley (below) give off very different signals, despite their similarities

Photo: Gerant Lewis

for a drive. As that great bonnet, fronted with its famous Gothic radiator grille, swings into a petrol station on the AI near Newark, hear what the locals, flustered from Transit vans, hot from Reliant Robins and Austin Maestros have to say: "beautiful motor", "fantastic car", "lucky geezer", "won the Lottery, then, have you? That's what I'd get if I did".

Out on the open road, nearly everyone (save for a few angry-faced, mustachioed, fastlane reps in Mondeos and Vectras) give way to this 400-horse-power chariot. Even normally unstoppable British Telecom vans flash the Bentley into husy traffic queues.

Fascinated by the royal treatment I had

received from other road users when out driving the hugely expensive Bentley, I decided to complete this investigation into British manners, Crewe radiator grilles and Pavlovian responses by borrowing the nearest Rolls Royce equivalent to the Bentley I knew. This was an immaculate 2-door 1976 Rolls-Royce. hased on the Silver Shadow, and one of the most elegant of the cars crafted at Crewe in

the oil-crazy Seventies. You will already have guessed what happened. Wherever I parked this handsome road carriage, I was met with the stock

home, at a garage near Basingstoke). This particular second-hand Rolls-Royce coupé was on sale for £24,995, more than £150,000 less than the new Bentley.

My advice, if, like my friend you are attracted by the idea of driving to work in a used Rolls-Royce, is to remove and store that famous stainless-steel radiator grille (save for trips to Berkeley Square, Cannes or Baden-Baden) and replace it with the much cheaper painted steel Bentley item. This seemingly insignificant quick-change act will transform you from a "rich hitch" response "rich bastard" (once at a service stainto a someone to be respected. Absurd, but, tion at Andover and once again, on the way sadly, all too true.

### About to buy a new car? Don't

By Gavin Green

There is one simple key to clever car huying. It holds true whether you're buying a Mini, a small hatch, a family saloon, an executive car, a sports machine or a hig estate. And it's this: never huy a new car. More and more Britons are preferring the more sensible option of buying manufacturer-approved used cars.

New cars, of course, have never made sense. We all know that the moment we leave the showroom we lose anywhere between £500 and £5,000, in what is the most expensive drive of our life. (Small hatches depreciate the least, large executive cars made by the small hatch makers are the worst.)

Yet over the years we've kept hurning those pound notes. The emotional tug of a new car its shininess, its covetability, its unsullied history, its "this year's model" appeal, the envy it incites - is just too great a temptation. (I have fallen foul of it three times in the last 15 years, and will no doubt give in to temptation again.) It is a typical case of want ruling need. And given that such profligacy is the basis of our capitalist system, the car makers have never lost much sleep at the lack of logic of it all.

Until now. The private car huyer - from whom the car maker has made most of its profit, even if in Britain the company buyer is responsible for most of the sales - is going away. Five years ago, private buyers accounted for 65 per cent of all new car sales. Last month it was 43 per cent. Short of some drastic action,

he or she is unlikely to come back.

And why should they? Approved used cars, sold by franchised dealers, now have warranties which are as good as those once offered only with new cars. There is complete peace of mind, once the sole dominion of new cars. All major dealer franchises are at it, from Vauxhall, which popularised the concept with its Network Q scheme, to Ford, Rover, and most of the major importers.

These manufacturer-approved used cars are usually in pristine condition, sometimes run from new by one of the fleet companies to whom the car makers give such generous discounts. They are much cheaper than new cars, of course. Or rather, much cheaper to a private buyer. These used cars often cost private punters more than the same car cost the fleet huyer new, such is the continuing iniquity of Britain's company-car dominated market.

The car makers have only themselves to hlame. The company car culture which they have helped to nurture is finally delivering its long overdue comeuppance. New cars are oow usually too expensive, as car makers put through increases over and above inflation, partly to subsidise their pals in the fleet firms. The private huyer is no longer willing to pay £16,000 for a well-equipped Mondeo when a near-identical car, two years old, will cost only £9,500 with the same warranty from the same dealer. Cars also last longer. They're more reliable, hetter made. Ironically, by improving their products car makers have hurt their own sales.

'Big-step" new cars are now rare, though which makes it difficult to justify spending thousands more for the latest model. Equally, car makers are starting to run out of "new-idea" cars to excite the public. The last one was the Renault Espace, 12 years ago, the first seven-seater MPV "people carrier" in Europe. Before that, it was the Range Rover, the world's first luxury 4x4. Both have been widely copied.

I foresee two possible likely-to-he-imitated industry saviours on the horizon - the Mercedes A-class, due late next year, which will mix Mondeo room with Fiesta road space (by having the engine under the body), and the new Mini, scheduled for the year 2000. If properly executed, the latest Mini should rekindle our interest in small, minimalist eco-friendly cars, 37 years after its predecessor showed the potential.

Only by giving much more or charging less will the car makers tempt us hack. Increasingly imaginative ads (if only the same creativity was put into cars), bombarding our TV screens with images of embryos enjoying the ride comfort of Rover 400s and jilted Latin lovers enjoying Puntos and pretty French girls in Clios will not do the trick. While the car makers want to engender lust in us to huy, we're regressing to good old-fashioned common sense to resist. Given that the car industry invented the modern consumer society, thanks to Henry Ford's mass production, who knows where this back-to-basics mood might end.

### Alfa Romeo Spider

There has been a great deal of limbering up for the UK launch of Alfa Romeo's new Spider, which goes on sale here on 25 April. Admittedly the facia, with its hooded instruments, seems a bit like a last minute nod to Alfa's past and the current obsession with retro detailing, hut from the outside the car's bang up to date - n's even front-wheel drive, which will horrify Alfa die-hards, but shouldn't.

I would advise anyone booking a test drive to make sure it's a lengthy one. As with all cars of distinct character, and especially Alfa Romeos, there is something of a learn-

ing process to undergo.

It's big - more a junior Mercedes SL than a contender in the MGF/Mazda MX-5 league. You may experience initial difficulty judging that beautiful body's extremes from the cockpit, and you will



destination,

My only serious beef, ignor-

ing for a moment the absurdly

it suggests leaves you sur-

need a fairly positive approach awaiting the arrival of your to gear changing.

Ooce accustomed to all that, you can begin to enjoy yourself. You bave Alfa's large and rather ineffective excellent new twin-cam at windscreen wipers, is the your disposal, a normally steering. A little too light for civilised and tractable motor my liking, the slight vagueness that will oblige with the usual high-rev delirium if required prised when the car responds and a ride which, while not as quickly as it does. It also choppy, is the sort that gives the impression that you reminds you that yon're driving a motor car, not simply before you actually are.

That apart, this car is every hit as good as the famous name and reputation of its predecessor while avoiding the obvious temptation to be a mere pastiche of it.

**James May** 

Specifications

Alfa Romeo Spider 2.0 Twin-spark 16-valve Price approx £22,000. Two-litre transverse-mounted in-line four; 150bhp; five-speed manual; top speed 130mph; 0-62mph (100kmh) 8.4secs; overall fuel consumption 34.0mpg.

MGF 1.8 16v VVC 5-speed, £17,995. 8MW Z3 1.9 5-speed, under £20,000 (to be announced). Mazda MX-5 1.8iS 5-speed £17,595. Saah 900 are at the limits of grip loog 2.0iS 5-speed Convertible, £21,902.

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# This weekend 16 million lawns will be fussed, fed and fretted over

. but is the effort, and are the pesticides, really necessary? Anna Pavord extolls the virtues of the alternative, Freedom Lawn

omebody somewhere is probably already writing a thesis on our relationship with lawns, "Man v Nature; rediscovering har-mony", "Songs of the Sod: an Assessment of Mowing", "Striped State: Man. Machine and Mindset". I use the word "Man" optimistically, for I depend on having nothing to do with our lawn, My husband, who is gloriously unreconstructed, thinks that mowing is Man's Work. That is fine by me. I do not have great expectations of a lawn. I like it greenish and flattish. Daisics and blue flowered speedwell seem a positive benefit. Sometimes we have had sprinklings of violets in the lawn, too.

An American thesis on the subject has already been published in this country:
Redesigning the American Lawn by F Herbert
Bormann, Diana Balmori and Gordon T Geballe (Yale £7.95). Lawns there are even more of a fetish than they are here. Fences are frowned on, so lawns are rather public places. Whoever lets the side down by not mowing the sward in front of his house gets cross letters from the county authority reminding him of his

duty as a citizen to keep the wilderness at hay. Murray and Ann Blum of Athens. Georgia, refused to toe the line. To save face, the town council designated their unkempt one-acre garden a hird sanctuary and put up a large notice on one of their trees explaining this to the world at large. A picture from the Atlanta Journal shows Murray Blum laughing in his garden under the headline The Yard From Hell.

The authors argue for a less fascist approach to the garden lawn, "Properly" maintained (that is maintained according to the instructions issued by manufacturers of fertilisers, weedkillers, moss killers, lawn sand, lawn aerators, and the like) a lawn is a monoculture. The best kept lawns are those with the least diversity of plants; several million blades of fescue living in a botanical ghetro, untroubled by interlopers such as daisy or cclandine.

Bormann and co are proponents of what they Industrial Lawn, the one with no weeds). It ticides an acre than do farmers. sounds good to me. The Freedom Lawn, they say "results from an interaction of naturally recurring processes". I think that means you mow, but not too close. You leave the clippings to feed the lawn. You tolerate interlopers, as long as they do not get too bossy. I wage occasional war on lawn weeds with wide skirts, such

### Grass: a user's guide

Here is a calendar of jobs to keep a reasonable family lawn in good fettle. As soon as possible in April, rake out as much as possible of the moss and thatch in the lawn. If you have a large area to cover, you can hire a scarifier to do the job for you. Then treat the lawn with a moss killer combined with a fertiliser (the Japanese think moss gardens the height of refinement). Between April and October give the lawn one or possibly two treatments of a fertiliser combined with a weedkiller. Fisons Evergreen Weed and Feed Liquid or B&Q Triple Action Lawn Care are Gardening Which? Best Buys (goodbye to biodiversity). In October, spike and aerate the lawn to ease compaction. On a smallish lawn you can do this with a garden fork, wiggling it about after you have stuck it in the ground to open up the holes (The Freedom Lawn needs this too). Follow on with a sieved top dressing of sharp sand - not builder's sand - mixed half and half with - not ouncer's sand - moved half and half with garden soil. If your ground is heavy and sticky, increase the proportion of sand. If it is light and dries out quickly, add more soil, garden compost, or fine leaf mould to the mix. Spread a spadeful over each square yard of the lawn (top dressing is exhausting, but it is one of the best things you can do to lawns, Freedom or otherwise).

as dandelion, plantain and thistle, but it is quicker and far more satisfying to whip these out with a penknife than to spend hours like a donkey on a treadmill, walking up and down behind a spreader, scattering weedkiller.

Lawns cover 20 million are so the US, mak-

Ing lawn grass the biggest single "crop" produced in the country. But the Americans, like us, moan about what farmers are doing to the environment, while, like us, spending millions on various chemicals to tip on to their own patches of ground. The National Academy of Science in the States discovered that botnecall The Freedom Lawn (as distinct from The owners use up to 10 times more chemical pes-

> are ones we know already, but don't always care to take on board. There is the argument about the fossil fuels needed to power the ever increasing range of machines we are told we need to maintain our lawns: mowers, aerators, leaf hlowers, strimmers. More fossil fuel is burnt up Hose pipe bans are difficult to police. But if you the grass has scarcely been growing. And this

transporting herbicides and chemical fertilisers from mines to factories and garden centres.

We shrug and say, "Well our lawn machines don't use much petrol". That's true, but the twostroke engine is a dirty, wasteful converter of fuel to energy. There is, as yet, no legal requirement to fit catalytic converters to lawnmower engines, although its relative inefficiency means that, for each horse power produced, it creates 50 times more pollution than a long distance lorry. Or, to put it another way, if it takes you one hour to mow your lawn with a petrol-driven lawn-mower, you will have produced as much air pol-

Another argument for The Freedom Lawn the problem of water shortage. Our obsession with the greenness of a lawn tempts us to water

leave it alone, with the first rain a lawn will green up of its own accord.

Part of the problem is that our expectations of our lawns (and much else in the garden) are unrealistically high. We expect them to be per-fect and unblemished, whatever the prevailing conditions. That can become a fetish.

The creed of The Freedom Lawn will be an anathema to the fanatical acolytes for whom a single daisy can be cause for hara-kiri. These are more likely to be men than women. Perhaps it is the ritual that attracts: the weekly mower, you will have produced as much air pol-lution as if you had driven 350 miles in your car. cut, the edge clipping, the stripes. The need for stripes is particularly intriguing, but deeply ingrained enough for Flymo to have intro-The arguments against The Industrial Lawn has to do with a different kind of pollution, as duced a Hoverstripe mower that stripes as it be closer than 15mm (about three quarters of excess fertilisers and pesticides wash off our cuts as it hovers. Before, only cylinder mowlawns into springs and streams. Then there is ers and some types of rotary mower gave the

desired effect. This weekend, our lawn will get its first cut. them in a dry summer, such as we had last year. That is late, but the weather has been so cold,

weekend another 16 million lawns in the UK will be fussed and fretted over, fed, spiked, raked and rolled. If you do everything that you are told to do to a lawn in a year, it can become the most demanding area of the garden. The most expensive, too.

However much you do on top to a lawn, its appearance, ultimately, is most affected by what is going on underneath: fertility and drainage. If the underpinning is not ideal, as is often the case, then fertilisers, berbicides and moss treatments can only ever be props. Not cures.

Low nutrient levels and poor drainage are the usual causes of moss build-up. Mowing too close also has a bad effect. The cut shouldn't an inch). Compaction, where the lawn is heavily used for games, bike riding, football, will also

promote moss at the expense of grass. Whatever the benefits to the environment, I don't expect great support for The Freedom

Lawn. Here, badly kept grass is a moral slur.



### **WEEKEND WORK**

There have been some desiccating northeasterly winds blowing recently. Wind dries out foliage faster than sun and is particularly difficult for newly planted evergreens to cope with. Spray them regularly with water or rig up plastic mesh windbreaks until the plants are well established.

Delphiniums are growing at last and need to be gently tied in to canes with soft twine. The sappy growths are very brittle. You will get bigger spikes of flower if you thin ant the weaker shoots. Slugs are potty about delphiniums. Protect

plants if necessary. Peonies also need staking. The pretticst (and most effective) way to do this is to weave a lobster pot of twigs around and over the clumps. Hazel or willow are the traditional materials to use. But if you have dogwood stems to cut down (see last wcek's Weekend Work) vou can use them instead.

Think about restocking punds with fish and plants. Fish like to stir around in the soil that the pond plants are set in, but a thick layer of gravel on top of the compost will deter them. Put this on hetore you lower plants into their final positions. Continue to sow seed of

flowers for planting out later in spring. I have just sown seed of Convolvulus 'Flagship Mixed' (Mr Fothergill £1.35), which should be flowering by July. It has the sort of trumpet flowers you would expect, but comes in a wide range of colours: dark and pale blue, pink and red, all with a white throat. They grow about 12-15in tall and are ideal for tubs and window boxes. This convolvulus is a favourite of hover-flies. They are worth attracting because they gobble up

### On the trail of hardy mimosas

By Anna McKane

t this time of year, when so much pink and white hlossom is Plahout, rounding a corner and coming upon a mimosa, with its masses of fluffy bright yellow flowers cascading from the arched branches, stops you in your tracks. Mimosas evoke a racy Thirties world of extended out-of-season stays on the Cote d'Azur. It seems to go with neatly pressed yachting clothes and lounging on teak steamer chairs. But some mimosas are pretty hardy, so you don't have to be very rich or live in the south of France to keep them

happy. Several will live in warm sheltered corners, while others will survive in cool glasshouses. The small spherical flowers, which grow in huge clusters, are actually made up entirely of stamens: mimosa flowers have no petals. Some mimosas have no leaves, either. The leaf-like structures are phyllodes, flattened triangular leaf stalks which grow straight on the branches.

Acacia dealbata, the silver wattle, is one of the easiest to obtain and easiest to grow in this country. It is the same one which is often seen by the side of the road in the south of France. The Mediterranean mimosas can hlossom at other times, too. They have fern-like silvery leaves and their scent makes up for

the rather harsh yellow flowers. Acacia dealbata is worth trying in a sheltered spot anywhere in the south of England, where it can grow to 30 feet. In suitable conditions. mimosas grow fast: at Abbotshury Sub-Tropical Gardens in Dorset they grow some species from seed - in less than a year these are three feet tall and ready to sell.

There are 1,500 different species of Acacia, all of which originated in Australia and Africa. Many need enough room to grow into a small tree, will sulk if they are cut down too much, and won't stand frost - so there is a limited choice for gatdeners without double-height conservatories.

If you're on the trail of hardy mimosas you could try A retinodes. This is an attractive tree with narrow willow-like leaves, which flowers in late summer. But the best of all is probably A pravissima.

This is one which has phyllodes instead of leaves. They are silvergrey and arrow shaped, growing all ong the branches, so they make good cut foliage even without the flowers. The flowers are a softer yellow than the silver wattle, and clusters of them are slightly smaller. They are spread all along the branches, so rather than making a solid block of yellow, the overall effect is of a mingled yellow and soft green. The branches flow in elegant arches, and seen from underneath, with a hackdrop of a clear spring sky, the effect is totally magical. My plant flowered in January last year, but this year it is just about to flower as late as April, presumably because of the cold weather at the beginning of the year.



For a glasshouse, one of the best is A bailevana. It has frond-like, bluegrey leaves, and clusters of flowers in the early spring. Several nurseries now offer a cultivar, A baileyana Purpurea, which has a mauvish tinge to the young shoots. It needs the shelter of a conservatory, and a large pot of John Innes No 3, plus regular feeding. Acacias are part of the pea family, and produce a certain amount of nitrogen on their roots, so they don't need quite so much feeding as some other pot-grown shrubs. As Roger Clark, of Green-

imosas flowers have no petals but are made up entirely of stamens Photograph: Garden Picture Library

way Gardens near Brixham in Devon explained, they need well drained soil, and plenty of room to grow. If they are cut back too much it may prevent them from flowering

As with many other plants, trial and error is proving that more and more mimosas will survive in this country. A flower which 20 or 30 years ago we expected to see only on holiday, is now being persuaded to thrive here. And as growers experiment with species, we can expect the range of mimosas to widen over the next few years.

6

Greenway Gardens, Churston Ferrers, Brixham, Devon TQ5 OES (01803 842 382) and Abbotsbury Sub-Tropical Gardens, Abbotsbury, Nr Weymouth, Dorset DT3 4LA (01305 871412) both specialise in unusual and tender trees and shrubs and have several mimosas on their lists.

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**CUTTINGS** 

There are 50 different kinds of narcissi in bloom at a private garden in West Sussex. It is open to the public this

The Alpine Garden Society is holding a show in Nottingham today (11.30am-4.30pm) at the Arnold and Carltnn College of Further Education, Digby Avenue, Mapperly. Alpines are in full flood now. Look for kinds, lewistus, iris, fritillaries, ferns and dwarf shrubs. There will be plants for sale.
Admission £1.

Opecialist aspects of gar-

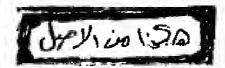
will talk about the decorative kitchen garden and Dr Glenys Dawkins whose spesaxifrages, primulas of many mans gardens in Sussex and

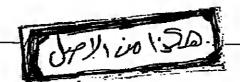
Odening, such as water gardening, landscaping and propagation are part of a week long course entitled Aspects of Gardening, which is being offered to ambitious gardeners, at the Royal

ciality is gardening for wildlife. The course includes visits to Nymans and Dento the kitchen garden of the Manoir aux Quat' Saisons in Chardshire. The course runs from 24-28 June, fee £245. Enrolment forms and further details from the Education Department, RBG, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AB (0181-332 5626).

oday 20 mrdens in Felpham, West Sussex are open (10am-6pm) in aid of

Botanic Garden, Kew. Tutors the village's St Mary's Ceninclude Rupert Golby, who tre. At the centre itself you can get coffee, home-made lunch and tea in between garden visits. At Deepdene. 38 South Drive, there is a hundred foot shrubbery. with arches leading to quiet areas of ferns and rhododendrons. At Sandy Lodge, 10 Davenport Road, the garden has twice been washed away by high tides. but there are still 50 different kinds of narcissi is bloom. Produce and preserves will be on sale at 41 Ley Road, where the owners have a sheltered walled garden with a productive vegetable plot. Admission







### INSIDE THE MIND OF AN EGG THIEF

they are gloated ove although occasion other

may be invited for a viewing. One man was caught in 1989, holding 16,500 illegal eggs.

The RSPB has 500 known collector

scrupulous records. One apprehended recently had dianes dating back 10 years complete with grid references to important nest sites, clutch sizes and laying dates. He revisited the same areas on almost exactly the same day annually. The red-backed shrike was probably finally exterminated in Britain by collectors.

 True eggers take all the nest contents particularly large clutches or strangelymarked eggs, removing embryos by piping in acid and syringing out the contents.

### The egger's favourites

 Ravens (5,000 pairs): early March raids on these, the first layers, double as reconnaissance for future raids Scottish golden eagles (420 pairs): late

 Welsh red kites (160 pairs): early April Choughs (280 pairs) – our rarest crows, nesting on Weish and Scottish cliffs; late April

 Scottish red- and black-throated divers (1,400 and 155 pairs respectively): highly orized because of their beautiful eggs:

 Óspreys (100 pairs) – no longer as rare as they were in the 1950s, but their eggs eight clutches were lost in 1995; May

Dotterels (155 pairs) - moorland waders from the Arctic are raided in

Scotland: May/June

• Avocets (500 pairs) - the RSPB emblem: May/June

### Cirl Buntings (230 pairs) – fast declining in the West Country: May/June

# The man who hunts the egg thieves

lolo Williams stays up all night at this time of year. He's guarding the rare birds of Wales By Daniel Butler

roseate terns. We had to wait on an solicitor," be explains. the morning. That sort of thing can happen any time from March to July."

5.00

1.200

7

Iolo Williams seems remarkably calm about the coming four months of sleepless nights and often futile waits, but that's not surprising - his mind is on other things. As he speaks his eyes are upturned, scouring the surrounding trees while rooks caw in the valley below. We are in "a known goshawk wood" in mid-Wales at the heginning of his working year - spring.
As species officer for the RSPB in Wales,

Mr Williams is responsible for protecting many of Britain's rarest birds and the breeding season is by far the busiest time of year: "It kicks off properly in April," he says. "We're most interested in red kites, but it usually starts with ravens. They're earliest of all and collectors come in March to watch other birds pairing up. While pinning down kite nests for a later raid, they collect ravens' eggs - get

their hand in, so to speak." Williams tries to be first to identify potential nests. This allows him to mount guards: "We

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couple of years ago we had a tip-off divide Wales up between about 20 nnpaid kite about eggers from the Midlands after wardens who range from retired people to a

Anglesey beach all night: in the end we Once the sites have been found, the most aught them at about half past four in vulnerable birds may have to be helped; "Eggers care nothing for birds and nothing for the countryside," he continues. "As far as I'm concerned, egg-collecting is nothing short of mindless vandalism."

Worse, eggs are valued in direct proportion to the rarity of the bird - and kites are among the rarest. Well-known nests have to be watched, in some cases 24 hours a day. This seems to be working well: "We have got away lightly the past few years because the army has helped guard nests and the thieves know it," says Williams. "So far we've only lost a couple,

but before that it was anything up to 10 a year." Mind you, even if a clutch hatches, more help may be needed. Kites are notoriously bad parents - one pair, for example, persistently nests above a lay-by every year, only to desert their young as the tourist season begins. So the chicks bave to be hand-reared and returned to the wild later. But the effort is worthwhile - kites have increased from 15 individuals at the turn of the century to last year's 120 pairs: "This year I

Eggers, though, are not the only villains. Thieves steal peregrines to sell to falconers while pigeon fanciers often blame peregrines for high losses among their flocks. Williams comes in for his share of hatred, too. A few years ago be found a peregrine eyrie where the clutch had been replaced with hens eggs. "The words 'Fuck you Inlo' were written on them in lipstick - I

gled with." Williams stiffens: "There we are - that's it." He points to an untidy mass against a larch trunk. "This is an active goshawk nest," he says confidently. "And it was used last year, too look here's a bit of shell."

Pleased to have pin-pointed the nest, he explains that the breeding season is the only time when a census can be taken of many rarities such as these goshawks. He also counts more familiar birds: "Common species are important environmental indicators," he says. For example, lapwings have dropped from 7,000 pairs to well under 1,000 pairs in just eight years, and skylarks are becoming rare in

Every spring Williams recruits fieldworkers for RSPB studies: "This year we're surveying expect to find more than 140," Williams smiles. the Brecon Beacons to find ways of making

money in the uplands without sheep," he says. "And we're doing a farmland study to check the value of environmental subsidies.

egated to others, it results in long hours for together with our policy people and Williams, too: "I don't expect to be in the office more than twice a week," he says. "If I ask someone to be up at dawn then the least know who did it and he's not a man to be tan-I can do is to be out there too, particularly

because we're increasingly using volunteers."
From March to July the day begins horribly early: "If you're monitoring black grouse, for example, you're up at 2am to catch the males displaying at dawn. Then I'll spend five or six hours with my field workers. Afterwards I'll aim for an early night, but of course it doesn't always work out like that because owls and nightjars need to be counted in the

evening. In spite of the energy he puts into his work. his efforts are frustrated by factors beyond his control. Overgrazing is worst: "There were 4 million sheep in Wales before the war - now there are 11.7 million," he says. "The result is fields as smooth as a bowling green and a buge

loss of heather." The answer lies in cutting back on sbeep numbers, says Williams, but the problem is

more complicated than that: "Rural communites are the backbone of our culture." he says. "We don't want to lose that, but we want the Although much of the groundwork is del- birds back. We should get the farming unions solutions together."

As the year progresses, the pressures to be out and about reduce, but the hours remain long: "The fieldwork eases off in July, but then I'm busy writing up reports, after which I plan next year's research and working out budgets."

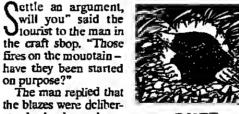
He pauses by the car parked inconspicuously in a lay-by: "I love my job, in spite of its draw-backs - I'm captain of the local rugby club, but there's precious little time for games." There are other disadvantages, too, such as the 2am call from the police one Sunday morning: "They'd searched a car and wanted me to identify some eggs. I'd had a few beers with the ream and was over the limit, but they were insistent and a squad car came 40 miles to pick me up. Now for five months of the year I can't even have a drink at the weekend."

Nor does he get paid overtime to compensate for the hours, but Williams doesn't mind: "Doing something I believe in while being out and about in such a beautiful country is bonus enough," he says, his eyes still glued to the skies.



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ate: shepberds were burning off old heather, as they always do in winter and early spring. Yet the tourist's curiosity was understandable, for the conflagrations were so numerous that balf the hillsides seemed to be going up in smoke. Out there in the West-

ern Highlands, the weather was sturning. The sun blazed down, and only a cool breeze saved hill-walkers from overheating. For casual vishors, this seemed a perfect climate. But local people were all obsessed by one subject: drought.

Lochs were at an alarmingly low level, trickle, and the surface of the ephemeral nature of the land was as dry as of individual man". tinder. Walking up into Letterewe, north of the mountains can strike Loch Maree. I felt a dread into your soul sense of unease, brought and worries about global on by the way the dead warming heighten the grass crunched under- sensation of man's imperfoot and only trickles of manence. It so happened



### HART-DAVIS

It was in those very

hills, that Frank Fraser Darling did the research for his celebrated book A Herd of Red Deer. In it he described how he spent the summer of 1935 living outdoors and walking barefoot - a practice which put him in far closer touch with the environment. Yet he also recorded how he found some places in the hills so alarming that he had to move out at nightfall, and how his sojourn in that "grey, broken country" burns reduced to a made him intensely aware

So it remains today.

which one speaker revealed that the remains of fossilised plants 520 millions of years old have been found in Scotland, and that the earliest known vertebrates crawled on to land in Morayshire 368 million years ago - developments brought about by the sea and air being tropically

warm then.

Scientists dispute whether or not our cumate is heading back in that direction; but hillwalkers are surrounded by evidence of relatively short-term meteorological change. The mountains of Wester Ross are now almost devoid of trees, but still in the sides of peat-hags you can see ancient roots, relics of the Caledonian forest which grew up after the glaciers of the last ice age had pulled back, perhaps 10,000 years ago. Man played a part in

the massacre of that forest. But the principal agent of destruction was the climate, which the great wilderness of The immense antiquity of turned progressively colder and wetter, gradually degrading the soil and laying down a blanket of infertile peat. Which way are we heading now? I defy anyone water wound their way I had just read a report of to predict what Lctdown the rocky burn- an International Science terewe will look like Festival in Edinburgh, at 10,000 years hence.

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### **LEEPING AROUND:** TART HERE

he most disturbing aspect of modern travel is the invergence towards niformity. Nowhere this more evident ian in the hotel om. Your Holiday in experience should guests, who can rovide the same epth of mattress. nade of bland allpaper and smiling eceptionist whether ou are in Leeds or hasa. is these two pages emonstrate, there re fortunately plenty f alternatives to the narch of en suite niformity. But for lose who want to tay somewhere really ifferent, I propose ne following. he Hilton Hotel tands alongside the nain Mbarare-Campala highway in estern Uganda: not, owever, a member of he illustrious chain, out a one-room shack vhich specialises less a accommodation stay at my house". han in tea and beer. If She does this as firmly ou drift off under the as (later) she declines payment for the nfluence of the latter, room, I've not heard hen a dusty corner vill no doubt be found of that happening at or you. But you might the Holiday Inn e better off shifting ontinents to find a

bed for the night. Forty pence buys you a night in a stables in a two-horse town in the highlands of Guatemala. The site has been converted into rooms for paying presumably afford 4 quetzales more easily than can the horses, who fortunately have been evicted. Their aroma lingers, and has permeated every fraying thread of the blanket which insulates you from a plastic mattress. Double glazing is not a feature; indeed glazing is not a feature. The rate, by the way, is for a double. More economical still, roll up at the creaky old hotel in Gibara, Cuba, close to where Columbus made landfall on the island. If it is full, the receptionist insists that "You will have to

Simon Calder

ens from Alls.



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# That elusive, smart and affordable hotel is only just around the corner — if you know where to look

here is no reason why we cannot find beautiful places to stay and eat without causing a financial haemorrbage but usually such places are kept closely guarded secrets. Overheard suppets can be very rewarding. When traveiling, I've found that simply by listening to the right conversations you can pick up ideas that open up a world of exquisite houses, tiny hotels and unique restaurants: places that are affordable, where you don't have to make do with darting into grand hotel lobhies in a nervous hunt for rich folks' loos.

There is a house where the giant swags of red velvet curtain in the hall came originally from the Doge's Palace in Venice, the rooms are panelled with Burmese teak, the recipe for muffins comes from Mrs Beeton's Cook Book and the current owner's accent is delicate north India meets BBC newscaster circa 1950. The Raja of Karputhala bought the Viceroy's Secretary's house, Simia, North India, in 1938 and the clock stopped then. Reggie, the current owner, is the Raja's grandson and he has made Chapslee House a microcosm of a gentler time.

In 1996, nothing at Chapslee House indicates that Rudyard Kipling's rabbit warren bazaars do not throh and buzz just out of earshot. No one else was staying when I was there; I sat in sobtary splendour on the terrace, my tea served in Limoges china accompanied by Mrs Beeton's muffins. I sipped contentedly looking out over the foothills of the Himalayas. Indoors a houseboy was on standby next to the hridge table just in case a playing four. requesting gin fizzes, suddenly materialised from a pocket of the past. His cap and white gloves were perfect whether be was delivering the bed tea at 8am or bringing me a china bot water bottle just before

midnight. Chapslee is rare but not unique. Up on a hill beyond the smog of downtown Istanbul perches the Pera Palace. Little as an attempt to soften the blow of arriving in Istanbul for travellers from the Orient Express. A delicate blanket of gentility has settled over the hotel where

Agatha Christie famously lost 11 days of ber life in room 411. Silver and crystal still shimmer and clink as the old world takes tea regardless of terrorist action elsewhere in the city.

Equally romantic cocooned in the past is the Old Winter Palace Hotel in Luxor. Its setting is dreamy - you gaze out over the Nile - and its elegance seems to flow from its old-fashioned features of carriage drive and swooping staircase. Every evening I sat in the gar-den under an oleander tree and looked out over the Nile to the Theban Mountain, As in Istanhul, the attitude of the national extremist terrorist groups means that life for tourists is not totally secure but, there are plus points in that this does give good hargaining power.

Sometimes it is better to start this value for money charm hunt closer to bome. I found Wesley House on a desperate search on a dark and windy night. I was simply looking for somewhere cheap and cheerful to stay when I came across this gem. It sits plumh in the middle of the honeycomb-cottage belt of corpulent Gloucestershire. Every sheep baahs on cue and every blackberry is just so at plucking time. The comfort, food and attention to whim are faultless. Here plump sofas meet herbaceous border, the marinated olives are better than in Positano and the country walking is a straight take on a

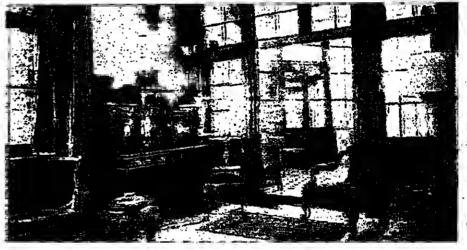
wander through a rural idyll. However if, for some reason, the sound of these places fails to appeal, make sure you listen to your fellow passengers next time you're on a bus or train. You never know what secret botels you may discover.

> Chapslee House, Simla can be booked direct on 00 91. 177 202 542 or through Distant Frontiers in Delhi (00 91 11 685 8857); Pera Palace, Mesrutiyet Cadessi 98/100, Harbiye, Istanbul (00 90 1 251 4560); The Old Winter Palace Hotel, Sharia el Nil, Luxor (00 20 95 580422) Wesley House, High Street, 602366). Justine Hardy's book, The Ochre Palace (Constable)

appears in paperback in

By Justine Hardy





North India

Photos:



SIMON **CALDER** 

on? Adrian West of north London suspects the latter of Country Holidays, part of

the Thomson group. My wife and I bave had many successful cottage holidays in Britain and abroad. This year, for the first time, we used the brochure of Country Holidays. We chose the cottage we wanted, and booked it over the telephone.

"I was surprised to find. when the booking confirmation came, that the cost of the holiday included both personal insurance and cancellation insurance. This has never been our experience with any other company. The charge for personal insurance was just a try-on - I didn't have to take it. The cancellation insurance was compulsory unless I

rying to help or trying it obtained equivalent cover elsewhere and provided the company with written details of my insurer and the policy

> Mr West believes the personal cover is a clear case of inertia selling: "We are already covered for normal risks, and a week spent less than 200 miles from home presents no special hazards." Regarding the cancellation charge: "Surely it cannot be any concern of Country Holidays whether or not I am able to take a holiday for which I have already paid. The truth of the matter seems to be that the company is not content with heing a letting agent, but thinks it has a captive market as an insurance agent. I think this is sharp

Country Holidays says it routinely offers both cancellation and personal insurance. "If personal insurance is not required, and cancellation insurance is obtained from another source, the matter is not pressed." Cancellation insurance is needed "to protect both the customer and the property owner. This is to ensure in the event of the holiday being cancelled the customer obtains a full refund of the cost of their holiday and the property owner is assured of payment from Country Holidays." You might think the com-

pany, as part of a group which makes much of the fact that it has assets of £6 billion, could afford to be more generous to the property owner in the event of cancellation.

[lvis Presley is travelling all Lover Europe from a base in Vienna. The singer lends his name to a Boeing 737 which is otherwise known by the unwieldy title OE-LNH, helonging to Lauda Air of Austria. Nikki Lauda, the airline's flamboyant racing-driver founder, has named his fleet after rock greats: Elvis is accompanied by Bob Marley. John Lennon and Janis Joplin, which must be the ultimate fantasy a cappella band. I am all in favour of more imagina-tive names than OE-LNH, but unfortunately for an airline, the other thread that binds these stars is that they died 100 young - as did the people celebrated in Lauda Air's 767 fleet, Marilyn Monroe, James Dean and

the recently deceased racing

driver, Ayrton Senna.

Mhile the world's airlines Ware projecting a public image of ever-greater comfort and attention aboard their planes, they can be rather less polite when talking among themselves. This week I overheard staff at a gate at Gatwick being told by walkietalkie that "three hags are on the way" - a reference to late or "Have A Go" passengers,

rather than their appearance. Once on hoard, you and me become unwitting members of a "trapped audience". I learn this from the BBC staff newspaper, which reveals that the Corporation has appointed an executive named Colin Jarvis to a new job. He was to be manager for Trapped Audiences, until he persuaded the BBC to adopt the title of head of Inflight Entertainment.

loronto Amsterdam

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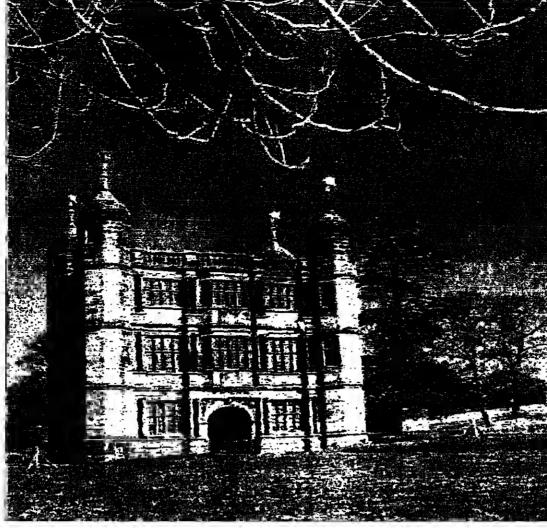
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# it you want a holiday

...you'll need to consult the Landmark Trust, the charity that rents out whacky buildings. By Angela Humphery

a blockhouse or in a bouse of correction? In a pigsty or in a pineapple? Down a mine or up a water-tower?

Since we began renting holiday accommodation from the Landmark Trust two and a half years ago we've stayed in six such buildings, looked at a further six, and bave just booked up for our seventh. These architectural gems had all fallen into disrepair but were rescued. repaired, renovated and refurbished by the Landmark Trust, which bas just celebrated its 30th birthday. This architectural charity offers self catering holidays in addresses to die for castles and châteaux, priories and palaces, chapels and colleges, abbeys and an Admiralty Lookout, manor houses, hanqueting houses and gatehouses, a Government House and a "White House".





bo in their right mind would want to and squat, it stands four-square on the sea wall, boliday in a hospital, take a break in the largest and most contherly of the chain of towers put up to keep Napoleon out. Built in the shape of a quatrefoil for four heavy guns, it is made up of nearly ooe million bricks and looks like a gigantic sandcastle. There's a drawbridge and half a moat (the other half hav-

> can gaze up at the stars. Our second was the Gothic Temple at Stowe in Buckinghamshire and our very first sighting of it was through a grey November mist. Stand-ing oo high ground, surrounded by sheep, this imposing triangular temple of red sandstone was built in 1741 and is one of the last additions to the garden formed for Lord Cohham of Stowe.

flat roof, from which guns were once fired, you

We took yet another tower for our third "Landmark". Luttrell's Tower at Eaglehurst near Southampton is tall and elegant, standing louse".

On the shores of the Solent looking towards
Cowes. It was used by Marconi for his wireless

Georgian edifice with speciacular views from the top floor living room of ships entering and

leaving Southampton.

Next was a castle, an awe inspiring experience and far from run-of-the mill self-catering.

Clytha Castle is a Georgian hilltop folly overlooking the Vale of Usk in the Welsh Marches, ing disappeared into the sea) while up oo the surrounded by ancient war-torn ruins of real castles such as Raglan and Chepstow, Grosmoot, Skenfrith and White, Tretower and Caerphilly. Leased from the National Trust, it stands on the edge of a grove of old chestnuts, fronted by a ha-ha to keep out the sheep which graze on the slopes below.

It was then off to hospitat - Beamsley Hospital near Skipton in Yorkshire, a single storey circular stone building that was built as an alms bouse in 1593. It had rooms for seven womeo, encircling a chapel, through which most of them had to pass to reach their doors - a daily encouragement to piety. Until the 1970s the little community of Mother and Sisters lived here, their Martens Tower at Aldeburgh in Suffolk. Short experiments in 1912 and is an exceptionally fine lives governed by ancient and ferociously strict

rules. Using its oddly shaped rooms and repeatedly crossing the chapel was a curious experience.

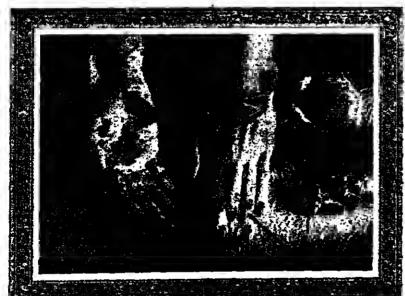
It is always exciting the first time you turn the front-door key of a Landmark property, not knowing quite what to expect. Seeing pictures in the handbook is not the same thing as actually setting foot inside one of these weird and wonderful buildings. And our last folly to date, Tixall Gatehouse, was no exception. Built in 1580 by Sir Walter Aston to stand in from of an older house which has since disappeared, it is a magnificent Elizabethan structure deep in the heart of Staffordshire, Standing alone oo high ground, stark grey and four-square with a turret in each corner, it is said to have a ghost. We thought said ghost might be Mary. Queen of Scots, who was

imprisoned here for two weeks in 1586. The property was bought by the trust in 1968 for £300 and was one of the very first historic buildings they rescued and restored. Today the roof is paved with stone and from here, surrounded by halustrades and turret tops, there are wonderful views over the parkland (landscaped by Capability Brown) down to the canal where a section has been dug out to form a lake known as Tixall Wide.

In one of the turrets lives the gatehouse clock. It is locked away since it has no hands or face. To show this is of no matter, the working mechanism merely strikes the hour and half hour which it does with perfect precision. Wake up call at Tixall is 7am sharp but happily there's a timing device so that the clock doesn't strike hetween the hours of 11 and seven.

> To book a property you need the Landmark Handbook, It costs £8.50 (inc. p&p - cost refundable against booking) from The Landmark Trust, Shotteshrooke, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 3SW (01628 825925). Prices vary according to property and season. Midwinter short stays (four nights Nov-March) are the cheapest and for Clytha Castle, Beamsley Hospital and Tixall Gatehouse prices start from £403, £266 and £364 respectively.





HENNA

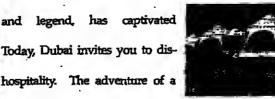
A reddish dye obsuined from powdered leaves, benna has traditionally been used by the women of Arabia to stain the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet for weddings and other festivals. The simple geometric patterns of the past have given way over the years to more flowery designs.

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### travel adventure

# Where compasses fear to point

### David Hempleman-Adams suggested something really stupid. Graham Hoyland followed

Stephens and me, he'd climbed Mount Everest in 1993. Now, just days afterwards, he was suggesting something I knew was really stupid.

"Why don't you come, Graham? Rebecca and I are taking a yacht down to the Magnetic South Pole. No one's ever done both in one season." This was madness. The Southern Occan is a savage sea. How would we

avoid hitting the icebergs? And what was the Magnetic South Pole, anyway? Simply put, it's where all the com-passes in the world don't point. An maginary entity, it roams the seas off the coast of Antarctica as unpre-

whether I was capable of achieving the three incompetent climbers under a long-nursed plan to sail non-stop his eye on C watch. Somehow the

just become the first Briton to seven summits. This has never been walk to the South Pole, solo and done before. Having climbed what unsupported. And like Rebecca are probably the two hardest mountains. Everest and McKinley, now it was time to try what is certainly the most ferocious of the seven seas.

So that's how we ended up on Spirit of Sydney, a 60ft aluminium swoop of the bows. A susurration of retired racing yacht based in Hobart, Tasmania. This was like three yachtles turning up at Everest and asking for again. I hit the ceiling of my bunk so a guided tour to the top. However, there were also three professional crew, as well as David's father-in-law, Ron, who was a proper sailor.

We attempted to leave land three times before the yacht was even half ready for sea. That set the tone. On the trip holes appeared in the soft dictably as the albatrosses that live metal of the hull - devoured by electhere. We'd have to locate it by satel-lite navigation, compasses don't work. to fill with water. We felt sea-sick My motive for going was to see nearly all the time. The skipper had

n the beginning there were three around the world on each of the of us: David, Rehecca and me. around the world on each of the beginning there were three around the world on each of the mainsail ripped when half a ton of ice his wife had spent a year. We sailed froze on it. All the fresh water in the for two sunny days, through iceheres David Hempleman-Adams had mountain on each continent: the tanks froze solid because we were sailing through sea-water at -1C. During a storm one night a wave came on board, cut some heavy ropes and stole the life-raft, not leaving a sign.
In my bunk, an 18-inch-wide book-

shelf, I tried to sleep, not believing the violence of the sea. A vertiginous hard that for the first time in my life I sustained an injury in bed.

Cooking was an athletic process: dancing in front of a gas cooker, juggling with pans. Ron and I engaged in an unspoken competition to cook the most exotic cuisine possible at sea. We overdid this eventually and the gas ran out, resulting in a spirit stove being pressed into service.

But we got there. We landed on Antarctica, an ice-bound shore of penguins and eternal winds. We saw the hut where the yacht's owner and

sitting in a calm blue sea like a home fleet of dreadnoughts. And we found the Magnetic South Pole at three in the morning last 20 February. It seemed to be a patch of ocean much like the other 3,000 miles we sailed. But above our heads the Southern Lights shimmered from horizon to horizon like a vast green curtain hanging down from space.

And the best bit? I'll never forget

the time we three Everesters were crouched in the cockpit in the last 65-knot gale. Violent storm force 11, it would have said on Radio 4. I was steering, the mainsail had just ripped for the second time, and we were careering down the backs of 45ft breakers. This moment was so exhilarating that everything seemed to be happening in a slow dream. Like climbing, the danger sharpens your senses to a degree you never experience in nominal life. It's sailing, so you're cold, wet and sea-sick. But you feel very, very alive.



### The Wildest 🐔 **Dreams** travel challenge

For anyone aged between 18 and 35 there are only a couple of weeks left to apply for funding for your wildest travel dream. Heineken, in association with the Independent, is offering up to £25,000 to help those in search of adventure, but the closing date is 26 April.

### How to enter

Application forms are available by calling the special hotline number 0171-231 5432, or through the Lonely Planet Internet hhtp://www.lonelyplanet.com.au; or from STA Travel shops.

### How much is the prize?

Heineken has a total bursary of £25,000 hut the awards are at the judges' discretion. They may decide that several travel projects deserve funding, or they may feel one except anal proposal (say a tour of the 177 countries where Heineken Export is available) should win the full amount...

### Give the family a taste of France this Whitsun.

The Whitsun school holiday at the end of May is juzt a few weeks away. What better than a week in France - visit Disneyland Paris or Le Mont-St-Michel in Brittany

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### **WORLD DEPARTURES**

"Scenic Standby" airpass giving unlimited flights throughout the airline's network. Two weeks' travel costs NZ\$699 (about £300), while a month is NZ\$999 (about £430). Canadian Regional has launched a NationalPass which costs £189 for a week, £239 for two weeks, and allows unlimited travel from Montreal to the Queen Charlotte islands in British Columbia. The pass also allows travel into the US, to Washington DC and Seattle. It must be hought in advance from AirPass Sales (01737 555300). This replaces the previous airpasses

Inlimited travel airpasses are not as widely available as once they were, but three countries still offer them. Ansett New offered by Air Ontario and AirBC. The same company also sells a Horizon Air standby pass. It covers the cides on the US West Coast available for around £420 return. Zealand (0171-434 4071) has a and northern Rocky Mountain states served by this airline, which is a subsidiary of Alaska Airlines.

> he Venezuealan national airline Viasa, which is part of the I Iberia group is offering a num-ber of late-availability deals to South America in April. Return flights to Lima and Quito are priced at around £450 through specialist agents such as Journey Latin America (0181-747 3108), Passage to South America (0171-602 9889) and South American

Experience (0171-976 5511). Flights are on Viasa from of Costa Rica.

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Bogota is the third airport to be added to the US Department of Transportation's blacklist. Eldorado International Airport is deemed not to "maintain and administer effective security measures. It joins Lagos and Manila on the list. Cartagena is widely regarded as

the most perfectly preserved Spanish colonial city in Latin America, You can visit the Colombian city with Sunvil Discovery (0181-568 8330) as an add-on to a Costa Rica holiday. The extra cost for three or four nights is around £320, on top of about £1,400 for a one-week lour

The gap of 11 years since Air Jamaica last served the UK has been extended by a further six weeks because of licensing prob-lems. The airline (0181-570 7999) intended to relaunch services from London to Montego Bay and Kingston at the end of May, but the start date has been put back to four weeks from today. The airline will initially offer three flights per week from Heathrow Terminal 3.

Reef and Rainforest Tours (01803 866965) runs a 13-day group tour of Indonesia, taking in Java and Sumatra. It visits Way Kambas and Ujung Kulon national is also a visit to Krakatoa volcano. Center in the morning.

site of the .1883 eruption. The price of £1,172 includes transport and accommodation within Indonesia, but air fares from Britain are extra.

ou can be part of the audience at a number of venues around the United States. At the Museum of Broadcast Communications in Chicago tourists can sit in on an archive programme called "Those Were the Days" on Saturdays or "Inside Politics" on Sundays. Call 001 312 629 6019 for bookings. The CNN Center in Atlanta has an afternoon audience show, which you can attend parks, providing the chance to see tyen if you do not take the studio tiger, tapir and Javan rhino. There tour. Pick up tickets at the CNN even if you do not take the studio

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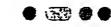
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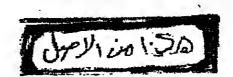
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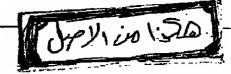
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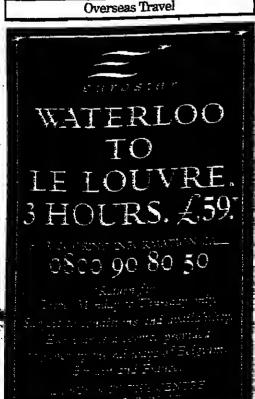
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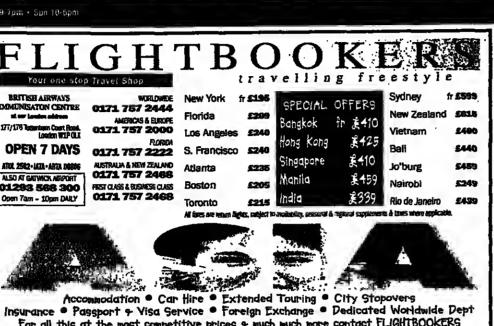
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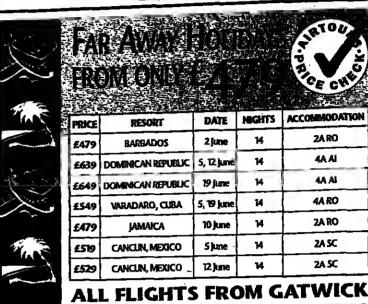
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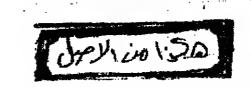
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# Demons and nuns at the end of the world

In Romania this weekend Orthodox Christians are celebrating Easter in glorious churches where the snow is still melting. By Richard McClure

the train tussled with the ferocious blizzard sweeping down from the Russian plains. "Here, you'll freeze without this," she had said that murning, handing me a sleeping hag. "It's the end of the world up there."

She spoke from experience, Having worked for 15 years at the state central beating company, she had little faith in Romania's ramshackle pipes and boil-ers. They could not be trusted to work in Bucharest, she said, let alone Muldavia - the portion of Romania facing the newly independent republic of Moldova across the former Soviet bor-

Her concern was echoed by the passengers sharing my compartment on the six-hour journey north to Suceava, the old princely capital of Moldavia. I was uo my way to visit the quartet of painted monasteries that lie among the foothills of the eastern Carpathians.

In late spring and summer, all four monasteries - Voronet, Sucevita, Humor and Moldovita - can be easily reached by hiking along well-marked tracks which cross the spruce-covered landscape of monasteries, Radauti is a worthwhile at the cabin further along the valley.

Succeita is the largest of the monasteries.

alina's words rang in my ears as the train tussled with the fero-travel is a far more treacherous proposition. The next morning, to whet my travel is a far more treacherous proposition. sition. The monasteries are remote, the trails impassable, the campsites closed and the hus timetable designed for maximum inconvenience.

Whatever the temporary hardships, the Orthodox monasteries are too magnificent to miss. Built in the 15th and 16th centuries when Moldavia was Christendom's last refuge from the rampaging Ottoman empire, each is adorned with biblical scenes of epic proportions. Uniquely, the sacred tableaux cover not only the inside walls, but every inch uf the exteriors, their radiant culours shielded from the corrosive winds by vast wooden eaves.

By the time the train limped into Suceava, my slight trepidation had been eased by Diana, a student returning home for balf-term. Aghast at my poorly laid plans, she invited me to stay at her family house in Radauti. Her father, Luca, a local doctor, owned a summer cahin in Sucevita and would be happy to accompany me - weather permitting.

Ten miles from the Ukrainian border

tury church - the oldest in Moldavia. Although the frescoes in the dank interior had been obliterated by centuries of candle-smuke, it held other treasures, including, in one darkened corner, an omate casket where the bones of a saint lay on golden brocade.

That afternoon we set uff for Sucevita in Luca's silver Dacia, Romania's functional equivalent of the Lada or Trabant. The snowfall had reduced the road to a trough of sludge a few yards across and the only traffic was a procession of carts. loaded with logs and pulled by a hrace of horses with scarlet tassles swinging from their bridles. From the window, I saw gypsies' houses painted in their lucky colours of red and green and villagers balancing precariously as they shovelled snow from their roofs.

Slowly, the whitewashed cornfields yielded to the slopes of hills which in summer months are dressed in wild mushrooms and mountain flowers. Luca dropped me off a short distance from the monastery; he had jobs to attend to Sucevita is the largest of the monas-

teries and, like the others, protected by UNESCO. Enclosed within a formida-way back was illuminated by the single ble outer wall of battlements and turrets, it is more eastle than church. The stillness uf my approach - broken only by the competing cries of wood pigeons and crows - ill-prepared me for the scenes of infernal torment as I entered the cuurtyard.

Ahead, stretching 20 feet along the north wall, a Ladder of Virtue ascended towards heaven. A host of angels assisted righteous souls to the celestial city, while monstrous demons wrenched sinners from the rungs and cast them into the fiery pit. Beneath the fresco, nuns swathed in black passed to and fro like figures brought magically to life from the walls. One unlocked the monastery doors for me to step inside, but its cave-like chill took my breath away and I left quickly,

At his cabin, Luca had lit a fire. Dispensing whisky and fruit, he talked of his patients' ailments and Moldavia's refused to sell me a dozen wilting flowers for my hosts. "Twelve is for dead people," he admonished. But bis sugtimber industry which is polluting the rivers and diminishing the forest with indecent haste. Night had fallen by the on 11. In Moldavia you don't want to go time we made the journey home but the upsetting the spirits.

lanterns tied to each cart. Twice, as the car edged past nervous mares, we slid off the road and got wedged firmly in

The other monasteries lack the sweeping grandeur of Sucevita but are no less breathtaking. Seen in a morning Last Judgement dazzles the eye with its mysterious blue pigment, the exact composition of which has yet to be determined. From here, it is only a few miles along the valley to Humor (a walk possible even in winter). The most modest of the monasteries, its tranquil setting belies the scenes of frenzied slaughter on the walls: Turkish beads roll under the axe as the infidel fall vic-

tim to Christian wrath.

A few days later, a wizened stall-holder at Radauti's weekly market gestion of 13 blooms gave rise to my own latent superstition and we settled

BELARUS

How to get there British Airways (0345 222111) flies daily except Sunday from Gatwick to Bucharest; the World Offer fare is £266 including tax. More cheaply, you can fly from London to Bucharest nn the Romanian national carrier Tarrim for £211 return through Ace Travel (01494 463324). As an alternative to the six-hour

train journey from Bucharest to Suceava, there are flights daily except Sunday from Bucharest.

A fly-drive holiday with Intra (0171-323 3305) costs £347 per corrector one week inclusive of a

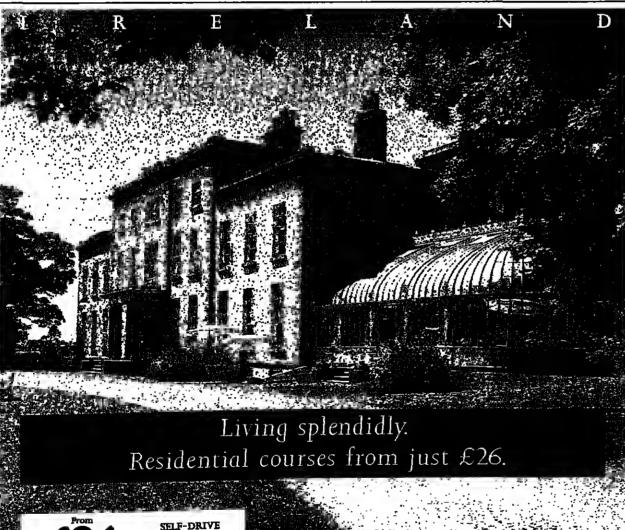
person for one week, inclusive of a flight on Tarom and hire of a Ford Fiesta, based on two people sharing.

### Who to ask

The Romanian Tourist Board, 83a Marylebone High Street, London W1M 3DE (0171-224 3692) has a brochure on cultural centres in Maldova, and can also supply a useful road map of the country.

### What to read

The Rough Guide to Romania by Dan Richardson and Tim Burford (£9.99).



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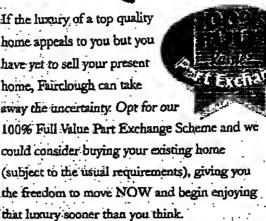
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# A full recovery from major surgery

The Royal Naval Hospital in Plymouth is an example of how to redevelop an historic building without ruining it. By Mary Wilson

t is unusual for a property to have had one careful owner for more than 200 years, but the old Royal Navy Hospital buildings, at Stonehouse, two minutes west of the centre of Plymouth, can certainly boast that. And that owner, the Ministry of Defence. bas left them in superb condition.

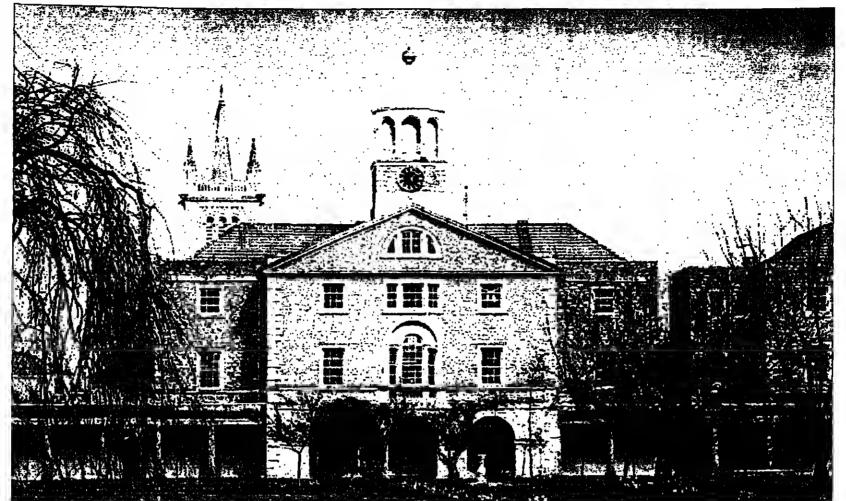
The hospital was constructed in the 1750s, the first to be built with separate ward blocks to evoid contagion. It is set in 241/2 acres, surrounded by an 18ft high stone wall. In the lase 18th century, further residential accommodation was built, substantial five-storey limestone buildings and cottages, and these are now for sale as family homes. The cen-tral part of the site, meanwhile, will be commercial – the Chamber of Commerce and Business Link are future tenants. The eastern end has been taken by St Dunstone Abbey Girls School.Work there is frantically being completed before the new term starts next week.

The site has an unusually low ratio of bricks and mortar to open space, and the new owner values this highly. Charles Howeson, a naval officer for 27 years, left the service six years ago. He was looking for property in the South-west of England for Peaceston, a Scottish Invest-ment Group, which prides itself on its environmental and conservation concern.

"I was part of a local initiative to attract investment to this part of the world," he explains, "When the hospital was vacated, I recommended that this would be an opportunity for the company to be involved in some responsible regeneration.

"Peacestone was interested in longterm investment, so devolved the residential side to my company, Crown Hill Estates. We exchanged contracts last February and I then had five months in which to make my business plan stack up before we completed."

Howeson and his wife, Emma, initially raised the money from the local Barclays Bank, with the intention of selling four houses and one commercial property by August. This they did, and all at the asking prices. "I knew Solar Wetsuits was looking for new premises, so I approached them; a senior local government officer from Plymouth City Council obviously knew about it and had been banging on my door as soon as he heard of my involvement; and the managing director of the merchant bank contacted me, too. Another house went to an ex-marine and his sister."



Photograph: Apex

ing price because I did not think he

would be happy in the long term."

Which is a polite way of saying that be

was just not suitable. Howeson is there-

fore delighted that an ex-naval nurse

who worked here and whose father was

Prices of homes at Millfields range

to £75,000 for a two-bedroom

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one of the houses.

the market price for the residential element of the site, he has already made a sizeable profit. But he is also very concerned about the environment. "My role is to protect the place," he says.

The Royal Naval Hospital

"We have put in new services and Eurobell has installed the newest fibreoptics for telephones and so on. The company is moving into the gate house next month.

"We are also putting in a new road and have restored the jetty which now juts over a grass 'sea'. One of our first iobs was to deinstitutionalise the place. There was a forest of signs to remove, including all the ones which said 'Don't Walk On The Grass'."

Dateline

"The highest profile

The site is now called Millfields, the

Although Howeson says he paid over original name of the place in the Domesday Book. It feels remarkably peaceful, a quality dependent in no small part on the excellent security which is proving a definite selling point. There is one entrance only, with guards on duty 24 hours a day. Burglar alarms and fire alarms are also directly connected to

> Each property is sold on a 999-year lease with protective covenants such as no boats and caravans. "The first properties were completed at the same time, so the buyers all had a hand in mould-

ing their lease," says Howeson.

A collection of outbuildings has been bought by John Chaddler, a property developer from Sussex, who was born in Plymouth. He is converting these into 10

one-, two- and three-bedroom flats. move in are the ones who create the Three of them have already sold. ambience of the place, I refused some-Where else in Plymouth, could you buy one who offered a lot more than the aska flat with this sort of security?" he says. "If these were in Sussex or London, they would be double the price."

Tony Allen, an ex-marine, has jointly bought the Commander's House with his sister. "I know the way the MOD looked after its premises and so I was not sur- a doctor at the hospital, has just bought prised when we discovered 10 original fireplaces hidden away - and an old range in the basement, also boarded up." he says. "In the laundry room, we found the original flagstones and huge old hrick fireplace."

Howeson is adamant that only the right people will live here. "It is like a ship," he says, "the first people who Chipping Campden, Gloucs

Househunter



he most unlikely house in Mayfair, central London, is for sale. This Gothic-style castle - which has been rented in the past by many a showhiz star, including Cher - was built in 1930 by Frederick Etchells. It is approached down a long passage between two other buildings, also devised by Etchells, and totally hidden from view. Once inside the arched front door, you are transported back in time. The rooms are oak-panelled with intricate friezes and ceiling mouldings. There are Tudor-style fireplaces, stained-glass windows and charming carved heads on the oak hanisters. The curtains and four-poster beds are also for sale. The only concession to the 20th century are the hathrooms. The four-hedroom house, which is Grade II-listed and has a terrace on its castellated roof, is being sold by Wethcrell (0171 493 6935) for £795,000 for a 22year lease.

### For what it's worth

The latest figures from the National House Building Council (NHBC) show that in the first quarter of 1996 bousing starts are down 9 per cent from 42,277 to 38,455 and completions are down 5 per cent (40,161 down from 42,361). But the council is not despondent. We are still cautiously optimistic that the market will improve," says a spokesman. "The figures are slightly disappointing, but the rate of decline is slowing. In the last quarter of 1995, housing starts were down 20 per cent and completions down 8 per cent." The latest reduction in mortgage interest rates and slight house price rises indicates that the market is poised to take off again, albeit in a very gentle

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AERKSHIRE MAN 48 and single. Skes 60's music, carries and pubs seeins lady with similar interests. Phone 01635 38707.

ASSERTIVE CARING MAN mid 50's interested in theetre music food walking seeks tactile tady for lasting triandship. Central London based, Box No I; 1198.

ATTACHED PROF MAN sculptor international trader 50's alim with wit and affluence seeks similar interesting woman for long term lasson. London SE or Interna-tional, Sor No I: 1201. DARK, WITTY, TENDER, loving horny toed WLTM a warm, sensi-ous, cuddly, curvy princess wit the view to a passionasis, emotion ally mature transformation of greater heights. Box No 1: 1202.

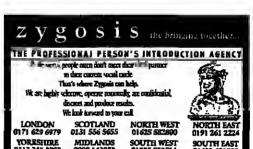
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NTERESTING ATTACHED MALE 50 graduate seeks kindred female with QSH and zest for benign dis-creet dalilance ala E/ang. Box No

OXON PROF WOMAN 40a likes theatre, film, music, good lood whe/conversation approclates wit a kindness seeks humorous intoligent M for quelity company. Box No I: 1191. TOGETHER, ATTRACTIVE, Interest

ing, woman, 48, without excess baggage seeks similar man to sometimes share, Lancashire rural kiyii. Box No I; 1182. WOMAN, 58, seeks academic, intel-lectual, emotionally mature man, similar age: for loving, sexual rela-tionship. Sex No E 1206. GOOD LOOKING 6' slim gent, romantic, many interests, WLTM tectile, vibrant lady of DD+ proportions, not fat, good sense of humour for adoration into the Millinnium. Photo please. Soy No I: 1177.

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### money

The traditional view is that the market worries over a Labour administration . until it has won, then realises this means

greater public expenditure. This time is different

hat a fine old ship the UK economy is. She may be old but she's made from solid British oak. Unfortunately she does appear to be somewhat leaky and in spite of a drastic overhaul since 1979 her equipment doesn't seem to be quite as modern as her neighbours. as her neighbours.

Discipline among the crew bas been dramatically improved even if the differences between officers and crew are more sharply defined. There now, however, appears to be some difficulty ahead, as the crew in this democratically run ship is shortly to re-elect its captain and officers.

Until this is over she is likely to be less certain in her course and there may even be an amount of sail flapping. However, once the good governance of the vessel has heen decided she will again be able to make her way and be possibly set on a new course.

The question, however, is whether she is in the right shape to compete with some of the more elegant looking continental galleons around her, and, come to that, if she wishes to sail with this squadron of other ships or make her own way?

As investors in this enterprise we need to be assured that the master is clear about what he is intending to achieve, and that our monies are safe with him and his crew.

Already we can see our markets being affected by the impending election. Whether it is hased on logic or emotion, share prices will inevitably be influenced. Some, such as the water, electricity and power stocks will he really quite sensitive, but other privatisations have little need to be concerned,

I include companies like BAA and



### JUSTIN URQUHART-STEWART INVESTMENTS

British Airways here. These companies have been in the private domain for such a period now and have created their own profile and culture. that most people can hardly remember them as being publicly owned at all.

The traditional view of an election, where a change of party is possible, is that the market wornes over a Labour administration until it has so high. won, and then realises that this means greater public expenditure, after which it forgets its concerns and recovers. This time the situation is different. Both "captains-elect" will have the same problem - money - or rather the shortage of it. The ability of either administration to increase public expenditure is severely restricted because the public sector borrowing requirement is still standing at just over 4 per cent of gross domestic product, and, if we are to conform to the Treaty of Maastricht then this has to reduce to 3 per cent. So, whoever wins they may set a new course, hut its likely to he very

similar to the old one. concern is uncertainty. We can already see this reflected in the UK market, when in the first quarter the FT-SE 100 under-performed after last year's exhaustive rise. And we only have to look at the US market to see that their rise has continued -

They too have an election. Clinton maybe ahead in the polls but the only dead certainty is that certainty is dead. I feel it is very likely that with the increasing froth of their campaigning, their markets will also react to the uncertainty, and that at some stage in the summer a seemingly insignificant economic action or indi-cator will trigger a retrenchment of

The uncertainty of the past week has, I believe, already undermined the market confidence and there will he further tremors to come. Inevitably when this occurs there will be a hackwash which our market will have to ride, hut we shouldn't be so badly effected as we have not risen

So our summer is unlikely to see our ship lying placidly in a becalmed ocean. The political – both domestically, in Europe and further afield - will keep us all awake. I can't see the FT-SE 100 Index moving firmly with its own will in any direction, and it is far more likely to he tossed around hy the vicissitudes of other external

In the short term we have the Railtrack privatisation to deal with and every chance of another one later in the summer in the form of British

The market is also full of rumours of corporate sharks behaving in a predatory manner looking for take-For the markets though, the main overs. When the monopolies and mergers commission report on the

proposed takeovers by PowerGen and National Power of any remaining Regional Electricity companies appears, this is likely to have a knockon effect and spark a new round of

speculation. Speculation over BT's negotiations (with Cable & Wireless) and the future of British Gas should help their shareholders see more value in their languishing share prices. Others like water stocks may also come

back into the frame. But why is all this speculation occurring now? The answer seems to lie in a feeling that if you don't do it now, it will be more difficult later. I am not completely convinced. I think it more likely that companies which bave been building up reserves are looking for significant growth opportunities and acquisitions are an effective, if not necessarily easy way of going about it.

Interest rates are low and are likely to remain so for the time being - although the next move could be up if the retail recovery shows any sign of quickening. So what should we do with our money in this naval enterprise? In my view, if you are already invested then ohey sound investment rules - if you are showing a good profit, then hank it; if you are showing a loss then cut it, unless you

believe there is a special factor. In the meantime, our market will probably sway to and fro until the question of captaincy and officers has been decided. So if you are in an investment skiff be prepared for the summer hack wash from the US and do watch out for the sharks.

> Justin Urquhart Stewart is business planning director, Barclays stock-

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# The portfolio to beat all Peps

go to Scottish
Amicable's Personal Equity Portfolio, which will be on 10. It combines the taxfree attractions of a personal equity plan bigger than all the existing Peps available to date with the ability of a split-level investment trust to channel all the income to the and any capital gains to tax-free.

In effect an investor can put up to £50,000 into the plan. of which £6,000 will go into ordinary shares in a new split-level investment trust, Amicable Strategy Trust, which will be placed in a PEP, and £44,000 into warrants which will be converted into capital shares held outside the PEP.

The management will deduct an initial charge of 4.9 per cent, of which 3 per cent will go in com-missions to the independent financial advisers through which the plan will be marketed.

The halance will be invested in equities cho-sen from the FT-SE top 350 shares, which currently yield an average of about 3.8 per cent net. a fraction less than the top

100 shares. The whole of the income will be credited to the ordinary shares, however, and can he paid out half-yearly or rolled up tax-free within the PEP element of the fund to generate a return in excess of 6 per cent to higherrate taxpayers. There will he an annual management charge of 1 per cent.

The capital shares will earn no income and will fall in value if the 350-share index falls during the planned seven-year life of the trust.

Unlike Scot Am's guar-anteed PEP there will be no guarantee. But as Scot Am's general manager of product development. Gavin Stewart, who created the fund, points out. there has not been a time since 1975 when the London stock market has fallen over a seven-year period.

In the meantime the fund will be managed to try and outperform the 350 share index. At the end of seven years the trust will be wound up unless 75 per cent of the shares are voted to continue. The capital shares tors seem likely to follow will have first entitlement to the capital, and will receive £50,000 or £44,000 plus the rate of inflation, whichever is the higher.

averages 1.85 per cent or has just begun.

irst prize for prod- less the £50,000 will be uct innovation this payable and there will be year so far must some eapital gains tax

offer from May 1 to June gered and the gain will, under current regulations, be tax-free.

nel all the income to the inside the PEP that gain, tax-free part of the trust like the income, will be ocot am, sponsor oi the Barbarians rugby club.

has set a ceiling of £1bn on the size of the trust but will be satisfied if it attracts at least a quarter of that. The maximum investment is £50,000 per person and £100,000 for a married couple, but the minimum investment has been scaled down at the request of IFAs to £10.000, of which £1,200 represents ordinary shares and £8.800 the capital

To qualify for the trust investors must not yet have used any part of their 1996/7 PEP allowance. The trust is heing mar-keted through IFAs and applications must he lodged with the Royal Bank of Scotland by June

The new product has taken Scot Am six months to devise. The proposal has been run past the Inland Revenue, which has raised no objection to the concept, although like the guaranteed corporate bond PEP invested in its own shares marketed last year by Legal & General the Scot Am product does appear to strain the Trea-sury's definition of what is an eligible Pepable

investment.

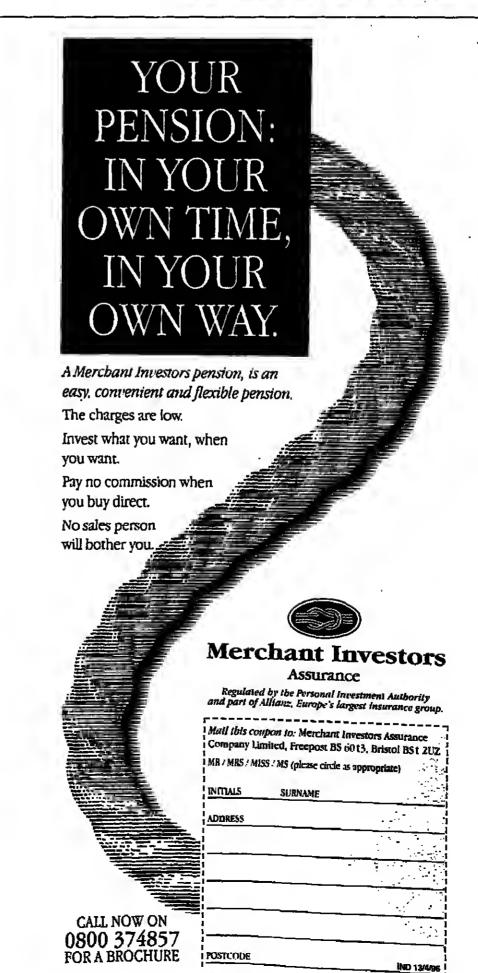
Independent financial advisers are divided over whether there will be a ready market for the product. The income yield will still be significantly lower than what is available on most corporate bond Peps and highincome Peps which medium-sized investors can buy each year, while large investors who will be constrained by the annual limit of £9,000 on new Peps of all kinds already have a wide range of alternative investments open to them at home and

If, however, the Scot Am product succeeds in tapping a rich vein of investor interest competisuit and to try and run the gauntiet of approval from the Inland Revenue to get similar products on the market before the end of If the rate of inflation the financial year which

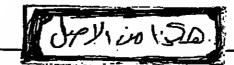
abroad.

Amicable's Personal **Equity Portfolio wins** the best innovation of the year award in Clifford German's books





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**FEAR OF FINANCE** Clifford German



from South Pacific, there is oothing in this world like a windfall for making investors happy. Members of the N&P Building Society will be hugging themselves with giee this week after voting overwhelmingly for a windfall oo both their savings and their loans. Bristol & West seems set to

people cheerful oext week. The total number of beneficiaries from windfalls since Halifax and Cheltenham & Gloucester set the ball rolling must by oow he well over 10 million, Thursday.

There is an alternative each and every remaining mutual society. By now impatient speculators for every satisfied one. Some of to be disappointed either by having their money tied up for a long time at low interest or by finding that their society goes in for a dull merger with another mutual cial raptor.

The Government, how-

To paraphrase the song 200p to provide small from South Pacific, there investors with a discount of, say, 7.5 per cent.

Spare a thought in all this euphoria for the proud parents and grandparents who took out school fee plans based on educational trusts to huild up a pot of gold to pay for future private education. Those nasty people make another 1.2 million at the Inland Revenue have decided that the income generated by school fee plans will from April next

year be subject to tax. Although it is still a year in the future, the most effective school fee plans are although it seems that not those built up over a period very many of them live in of years and several thou-Tamworth. Perhaps they all sand investors will find that had their money in Nation-wide, Birmingham Mid-without tax relief the coo-tributions they have already shires and Coventry and made will not now generate were feeling let down last enough cash to cover future

The Revenue's ruling explanation. New accounts overturns accepted practice are still heiog opeoed at going hack 30 years and it operates retrospectively oo plans already in place. It there must be two or three seems to he yet another example of the Government instructing the Inland Revthese at least seem doomed enue to take an active role in sniffing out tax loopholes. School fee plans are not

the only way of providing for fees, of course. A succession of Peps offers a very acceptable alternative method of rather than surreodering to huilding up a tax-free capithe embrace of a commer- tal and income which can be released to coincide with a school career. But it leaves those who thought they had ever, is doing what it does best and working to create through school-fee plans in another class of satisfied the lurch. Some providers speculator by announcing such as Sun Life have that everyooe who has registered with a share shop for the Railtrack sale will get a 15p a share discount. The continue actual price of the shares selling plans without the will oot be revealed even oo promise of tax relief, in the Mooday wheo the hope that the taxman's plans pathfinder prospectus is will arouse a storm of published. But the hest protest and force the Govguess oow is that the shares ernmeot to overrule its waywill be offered at around ward creature.

"Legal & General now has the best-value UK Tracker Fund PEP..."

Money Marketing, 23rd November 1995.

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### money offshore investments

# An umbrella in the sun

Offshore benefits may have been restricted, but new products fill the gap. By Stephen Spurdon



el Islands: Tax and investment advantages

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investment used to have a "naughty hut nice" feel about it, with the promise of gains growing tax-free out of sight of the Inland Revenue. However, such an impression is a bit oldfashioned and certainly misleading.

UK residents for tax purposes nowadays have to declare the income and capital gains to the Inland Revenue. There is virtually no way out of this because loopholes in UK legislation on offshore investments have been closed remorselessly in the past two decades in an effort to combat tax evasion. But there are still some advantages to be had from some offshore invest-

The 1984 budget introduced a change to the tax regime governing investment in offshore funds that distribute at least 85 per cent of their income to investors as either dividends, shares or units. The rest of the gains on the fund are treated as capital for tax purposes. These can be offset against the investor's annual capital gains tax allowances, and have indexation relief applied

Investors in funds that do not have this distributor status are called roll-up or accumulation funds. They find that all gains are taxed as income at the highest rate to which the investor is liable when the fund is encashed.

This only temporarily dented the market for offshore investment, however, for many UK investors saw henefits in offshore fund structures called umbrella funds.

An umbrella fund is an offshore fund which is managed in a similar way to a UK authorised unit trust but offers a much wider spread of assets between which the investor can switch. The investment options will cover equity, fixed-interest and

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he idea of going offshore for currency funds, sometimes with fur- However, with Capital Strategy, ther specifications as to risk, geographical sector and income or growth requirements.

Since the May 1989 hudget profits made when holdings are switched between suh-funds in an umhrella count as disposals, and are thus liable to capital gains tax.

But, despite these blows to their appeal to UK-based investors, both distributor and roll-up funds still present tax avoidance and investment advantages. With both types of fund, the investor can time the encashment of his fund to coincide with retirement and perhaps a lower income tax rate, or even with retirement abroad, for example.

Some still believe that there are advantages for UK innovators in looking at offshore funds. One is Nigel Parker, director of Jerseybased Gartmore Fund Managers International, which manages the Gartmore Capital strategy umbrella fund. This has distributor status, and is currently worth £489m. There are 227 sub-funds in the umbrella, including 14 equity funds, five bond funds and eight money funds. Minimum investment is US\$2,500 or the equivalent, and initial charges are 5 per cent for equity funds, 3 per cent for bonds and nil for money funds; annual charges are 1.5 per cent (equity), 3 per cent (bond) and per cent (money).

Mr Parker says: "The reason to look to offshore umbrellas is because of the flexibility rather than the tax advantages. Because of the changes to the tax regime for a UK resident it is not really a tax-driven investment at all. However, there are advantages compared

with UK-based unit trusts. "For instance, where you switch between UK funds, you have to take into account the charge incurred hecause of the hid-to-offer spread.

sub-funds all are single-priced on a net asset value basis so there are no conversion fees and we do the for-

eign exchange for you.
"In the UK all funds are denominated in sterling, even a US or Japanese fund, but here such funds are denominated in dollars and yen. This means the manager does not incur the currency conversion charges when purchasing the underlying assets. I would also point to an ease of asset allocation provided by the ability to switch free between funds as an asset in an increasingly volatile world."

Perpetual, a fund management group with a fine performance record, offers offshore unit trust funds with distributor status from its Jersey base, but they are not part of an umbrella structure. Roger Cornick, Perpetual's marketing director, sums up the reasons for UK innovators looking at offshore funds as: "Ultimately, it depends on the personal circumstances of an investor, ie where they want to be because that is when the tax charge will come. It may also he the case that the UK investor may take a view on currency and decide to move all his assets to a fund denominated in a currency other than sterling. It may also he the case that an investor feels a change of government is in prospect and that taxation rates may rise, in which case they may look to an offshore rollup fund to shield investment from the UK government."

Investors seeking details of both distributor and roll-up offshore funds can find information in such magazines as the International, Resident Abroad, What Investment and Money Management, as well as companies such as MicroPal (Tel: 0181-

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# Big new kids on the offshore block

By Simon Read

Malk down any street in Gibraltar, Guernsey, Jer-sey or the Isle of Man, and you'll be likely to encounter Ahbey National or Woolwich, Barclays or NatWest.

In the last 10 years or so most of the leading British banks and huilding societies have set up offshore branches or subsidiaries. While the existing, long-established offshore institutions offered a range of specialist financial services such as portfolio management, the new kids on the block were offering something far simpler the savings account.

Many hanks and huilding societies simply moved offshore so that they could offer UK residents tax-free savings. That loophole was subsequently closed by the Revenue but only after building societies and banks had woken up to other, new opportunities afforded by offshore subsidiaries.

and cheque accounts. Offshore accounts are UK-friendly, too, offering cash cards accepted in UK machines. So while your money may be earning good interest in St Helier, you'll be able to get at it easily in St

Interest on offshore accounts is still paid completely free of tax, leaving it up to you to inform the Inland Revenue of your offshore income. The Revenue can't force these offshore subsidiaries to reveal details of interest paid out to investors, so the onus is entirely on investors to pass on details.

You are allowed to keep cash in offshore savings accounts for as long as you like. hut as soon as you bring it back into the country you must pay tax on your interest. If you're interest they've earned and can pass that information on to

"A lot of people like the because they are not a million miles away," says Gcoff Roberts, husiness development manager at Lloyds Bank's off-

shore banking operation. Like many of the subsidiary of your savings.

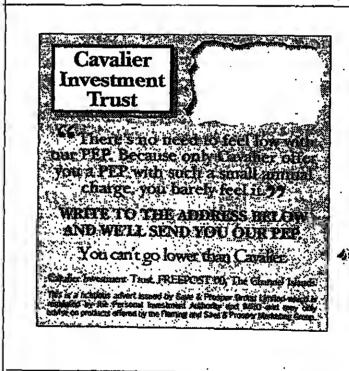
operations Lloyds Bank does not actively market its offshore products in the UK. But any British customers can simply call the offshore office to set up an account. From there things are run in much the same way as traditional onshore postal accounts. Cashcards and chequebooks are often provided giving instant access to cash if required, and the post, telephone and fax can come into play according to how you prefer to contact your branch.
"We attract a different kind

of customer in Guernsey to those our mainland branches have," says Derek Smith. a director of Yorkshill. Guernsey, a subsidiary of Yorkshire Building Society. "As a result our offshore accounts are slightly different. For instance, the minimum halance is £5,000. Because we're dealing with larger amounts, we can offer more competitive rates. The average balance of our cus-There's a range of deposit tomers is more than £50,000 and notice accounts, plus bonds and that halance is often a small part of a detailed portfolio. They want a huilding society account to provide

some liquidity." Anti-money laundering rules offshore are very strict. The Channel Islands in particular are very jealous of their reputation. This means you will need to prove exactly who you are before you will be able to open an account.

For cash invested overseas, the protection regime is slightly different to the UK. Here your money is protected by the hanks' deposit protection scheme or the huilding societies compensation scheme. Both pay out up to 90 per cent of the first £20,000 of your savings in the event of a collapse of the institution concerned. The Isle of Man has its own g a non-taxpayer, going offshore depositor protection scheme can make life very simple. run by the local financial super-linvestors are informed of what visors. It's not as generous as visors. It's not as generous as the mainland scheme, paying pass that information on to just 75 per cent of the first the Revenue if they pay no tax. £20,000 of your savings.

But if you have funds in the idea of having money offshore Channel Islands they won't be and are bappy with the Chau-covered hy any protection nel Islands, for instance, scheme But if the worse did happen, offshore branches and subsidiaries would he supported by their parent organisations - which, in most cases. will guarantee the full amount



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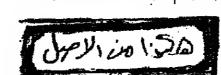
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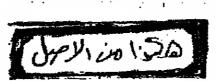
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### money offshore investments



## Take the adventurous route to a tax haven

Tax savings, higher income, and little risk. An attractive cocktail, says Mike Goodman

haven" need look no further than Peps or Tessas. But there are two groups of investor who will enjoy tax advantages from being more adventurous and investing

The first group are wealthy highthe tax year, and bave also exhausted their personal pension investment allowances. They may choose to "wrap up" their fund investment into single-premium offshore insurance bonds, and offshore trusts, to defer or minimise their future income and inheritance tax liabilities.

For them the name of the game is turning high-taxed income into capital gains. So their first choice among offshore funds should be those which "roll up" income into

The second group are non-taxpayers who want to save the bother of reclaiming tax credits on their UK unit trust investments.

For them maximising income without undue risk to capital is the chief objective. So they are hest suited to high-yielding funds which invest in cash deposits or bonds and enjoy "distributor' status.

Higher-rate taxpayers can also through single-premium insurance bonds, as the Revenue allows up to 5 per cent of the original investment to be drawn out annually as tax-free

Tax is payable eventually, but can be deferred until the holder moves to a lower tax hracket, for example on retirement.

Another tax concession, the socalled "dead settlor" loophole, can defer or mitigate inheritance tax liability - for the moment. And the use of offshore trusts can also play its part in tax planning. An offshore trust can based in a different jurisdiction to the assets. The Channel Islands, Bermuda and the Isle of Man are favourite "trust havens" as

Sadly the so-called "5 per cent" concession and the "dead settlor" loophole are unlikely to survive the next Finance Bill, and will certainly disappear under a Labour government. That said, avoiding tax is not the be-all and end-all of rate taxpayers who have used up all investing offshore, as Julia Whittle, their Pep and Tessa allowances for consultant at Chase de Vere Investconsultant at Chase de Vere Investment, explains.

"Don't just look at tax when deciding to buy offshore funds. Look at performance. Some offshore funds have not performed as well as the UK but it may be worth investing in offshore funds that do not have UK equivalents - multicurrency or emerging market funds. for example.

"Choose funds on their merits, not just because they are offshore. Often poor performance and higher charges cancel out the advantages of an offshore fund's tax-free status," she adds. Investors already bewildered by

the proliferation of UK unit trusts may be even more bewildered at the some brokers and fund managers to choice offshore. There are literally thousands sold out to a score of

wise to confine choice to funds funds in the same management managed by established UK names stable. and based in six offshore centres benefit from offshore investment Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Bermuda, Luxembourg and Duhlin.

The first four enjoy so-called "designated territory" status with the UK authorities, who recognise that the local regulation is on a par with the UK's.

The last two fall within the European Union collective investment directives, which allow funds to be sold throughout the EU.

Statistics on offshore funds show they are big business in these territories. The "market leader" is Luxembourg which offers 2,000 different funds with assets totalling £70bn. And from a standing start nine years ago, Duhlin's International Financial Centre now hosts 500 funds with assets of £30hn. year.

ost savers seeking a "tax their legal system is similar to that More than 300 operate in Jersey, haven" need look no fur- of the UK. with assets of £23bn, while Guernsey boasts about 200 funds with assets topping £8bn. Bermuda. a tax-free haven for top US mutual fund groups, hoasts more than 500 funds with more than £9bn of

> Only 100 funds are offered out of the Isle of Man and their assets are a modest £4hn. But funds offered hy the island's life insurance companies through investment bonds more than double this total.

Investors in funds based in Luxemhourg and Duhlin benefit from their "open-ended company" structure, hased on EU law. Unlike UK-style unit trusts, they are stock market-quoted companies.

These combine the best attributes of investment trusts with those of unit trusts. The first is single-pricing, the second is they can be set up as umbrella funds. With conventional unit trusts there is a bid/offer spread. With single pricing, there is one price and any sales or purchase costs are added on. This allows charge a flat fee-which cuts the overall cost of large deals. With an "umhrella fund" structure, it is For safety's sake, however, it is cheaper and easier to switch among

For example, Mercury Asset Management's \$1.2hn Luxembourg-hased Selected Trust offers 31 sub-funds. These range from low-risk bond funds to high-risk emerging market funds.

Some of these "company-style" trusts have already appeared in the Channel Islands, and they are set to appear in the UK later this year when the necessary legislation

New-style investment trusts may also be on their way from Duhlin, where the authorities plan to allow so-called closed-ended investment companies. These will be similar to UK investment trusts, but may be allowed to redeem shares at net asset value for a limited period each

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Choose your own currency

**By Stephen Spurdon** 

Having an investment port-lifolio with an adequate offshore money funds car spread of risk usually involves a portion being invested in cash. This could be in a high-interest account in a UK hank or huilding society. Or you could go offshore and invest in a bank account or a money fund. Interest on a bank account is paid gross and no tax is ayable on a money market

and until it is encashed. In both instances the investor can make further gains (or losses) by investing m funds or accounts that are

Offshore money funds can be invested in one of a range of currencies or offered as a single managed fund where the investment decisions on what currencies to invest in are taken by the fund manager who normally invests in a variety of currencies. The interest for investors by placing deposits on the wholesale money markets as well as the opportunity to switch quickly and cheaply between currencies through an umbrella

Bear in mind that interest earned is subject to UK income tax when paid out to UK residents. If the fund has "distributor" status, sale of the fund proceeds will also give rise to a capital gains tax liability after allowance for indexation. If the fund is a "roll-up" fund, the interest funds provide a high rate of earned is accumulated. It grows at compound rates and is added gross. Taxation may then be deferred until the investment is redeemed, whereupon the whole gain

rent fund last year was the Global Manager Japan Yen Bear fund, from the Bermuda-hased Bermuda International Investment Ltd, which provided a gross return, rebased against sterling, of 39.96 per cent (offer This compares with the

top-performing sterling fund, DBIM Sterling Reserve, which produced a return of 7.33 per cent over the same becomes subject to income These funds have all ohtained an AAA rating from Standard & Poors.

The top-performing cur-

There is no initial charge for joining the single-currency funds, but the managed fund costs 3.5 per cent up front. All of these funds have an annual management charge of 0.85 per cent.

Jonathan Overland, the sales and marketing director at Newton International Investment Management Ltd, says: "There is no switching charge, and one price for buying or selling on

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### FILM

**West End** BRAVENEART | 15| Mel Gibson directs and state. Empire Leicenter Square 12:15, 3:45. 7:30; Odeon Memanine 1:40 [Sat), 7:40 BROKEN ARROW 115) John Trovita Bier-acs Iwn nuclear warteads. Odese Martle Arch 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45; Odese West End 1.15, 200, 3.45, 4.90, 6.20, 7,00, 8,50, 9.30,

Cashio (18) Robert De Niro stars, Tro-cadero MGM Sat 4.05, 7.40, 11.20; San 4.10, 8.10; Plaza 12.30, 4.10, 7.50, 11.25 (Sat) CITY HALL (151 A New York mayor's under hand deals are revealed. Trocadero MGM hand deals are revealed. Trocadero MGM 12.30, 3.10, 6.10, 9.00. 12midnight 1Set J; Warner West End 1.30, 4.00, 6.30, 9.10, 11.40 CYCLO [15] Victnamese tale about buyele-drawn taxis, MGM Swiss Centre (2.50, 3.20, 6.15, 8.30

DEAD MAN WALKING | 15) A nun befriends man on death row. Shaftesbury Avenue
 MGM 2.10, 5.25, 8.25; Renor 1.05, 3.30,
 6.00, 8.35; Warner West End 12.30, 3.10, 6.00,

SSG, 1130 **EET SHORTY** [15] John Travolta stars. *Empire Lenemer Square* 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45, 11.30 [Sat]; *Trocadero MGM* 12.45, 3.45, 6.40, 9.10, 12midnight [Sat] 

NELLY ET MONSIEUR ARNAUD (RELLY AND BER ARMARIN) (PG) May to September (omance: Curyon Mayfair 1,19 (Sut), 3,30, 6,00, 8,30; Gate Notting Hill 2,15, 4,30, 6,45, 9,00, 11,15 [Sut]

OTHELLO (12) Lawrence Fishburne stars in this major Hellywood production of Shake-speare's play, Adeen Meximine 1225 (Sat), 320, 630, 840 it. POSTIMO (15) Lyrical, romantic Italian

provie about a postman and a prict. Gate Notting Hill Sun 12.10; Funton St MGM L20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40; MGM Swiss Centre 1.35, 4.05, 6.30, 8.50; The Minana 3.30, 6.30, 8.45 SERSEANT BLKO [PG] Steve Martin in the role made famous by Phil Silvers, Trocadoro MGM 12.20, 2.30, 4.50; Plear 1.30, 3.50,

SEVEN 118) A series of municipal stramp bouncide detectives. Empire Leicester Squ 12.45, 3.20, 5.55, 8.30, 11.30 (Satt. Odean Messanine 12.20 (Satt. 3.00, 5.45, 8.30) SMALL FRCES | 15) A boy becomes embruiled in gangland warfare. Harmarket MGM 1.10, 3.40, b.10, 8.40; Tettenham Court Rend MGM 1.45, 4.15, 6.55, 9.30; Rev West End 1.40, 4.10, 6.40, 9.10, 11.20

STOLEN REARTS [15] Sandra Bullock and Denta Leavy star. *Trocadero MGM* 2.30, 4.40, 6.55, 9.20; Wirmer Wen End 12.10, 2.20, 5.00, 7.10 [Sat], 9.40 SWINNING WITH SHARKS (15) A put-spon production assistant gets his revenge with his dictatorial director. Havmarket MGM 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.45; Tetanham Court Road

TOY 5708Y (PG) Computer-attenated extravaganza. Barbian Cinana 2.00, 4.00, 6.15, 8.50; Odeon Leiozster Square 12.40,

ALS, 3-50, 8.26.

TRANSPORTING [18] Adequation of frvinc Welsh's smash-thi novel. Haymarket MCM, 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40. Trocaders MGM 7.10, 9.30, [2midingh 1831; Variere West End 12.50, 3.00, 5.10, 7.20, 9.40, 12.00midnight WATTING TO EXHALE 1151 A group of women friends berate the lack of eligible men in Phoener. Tocardoro MGM Sat 12midnight: Ramer birst End 11.50 West End hooking lines.
Numbers 0171 except where noted; some constitution of the booking for the properties.

reamous of 11 except where todeed softer may levy a booking fee. Barbteam 458 8891: Chalsea Cinema 351 3742: Curzon Mayfart 369 1732: Curzon Processor 369 1721: Curzon West End 369 1722: Empire Loc Sq 9900-88990; Cute Noting Hill 727 4943: Lumare 830 6691; Vernelle 41644 474 678 478 but MGM 0181-970 toller Pant MGM 0181-970 6021: Pict MGM 437 3561; MGM 0181-970 0023: FIX. INGINE 20-Shallesbury Ave MGM 0181-970 0013: MGM Swiss Centre 0181-970 0017: Ton Ct Rd MGM 0181-970 0022: Broadern MGM on 81-970 0015: The Mineons 360 1723: 81-970 6015: The Minema 360 1723; deon Haymarket 839 7/177; Odeon Leic Sq.

repertory cinema PEPET FOF Y CHINCHIA

EVERYMAN opposite Hampstead Tube NW3
(0171-433 15:51

Devil in A Blue Dress (15) Sar Ipm, Spm,
Spm + The Last Seduction (18) Spm, 7pm
Once Upon A Time in The West (15) San
1.45pm Land & Freedom (15) San 4.55pm,
X.50pm + The Spirit Of The Bechive (15)
7.05pm

ICA CINEMA The Mail SW1 (0171-930 3647) Nadja | 15| Sat, Sun Z-Dpm, 4,40pm, n.Stpm. 9pm Never A Dumb Moment Sat, Sun 8,30pm

Sun 3.30m

NATIONAL FR.IN THEATRE South Bank SEI
10171-928 52321

Karaoke Sut 2.30pm; The Indian In The
Cupbaard (PG) Sut 6.15pm; A Mariter Of Life
And Death (PG) Sut 6.15pm; A Mariter Of Life
And Death (PG) Sut 6.15pm; The Big Blue 1.15)
Sut 8.30pm; The New Age Sut 8.45pm Independent British Film Seminars: Small Paces
Sun 10.15am; The Indian In The Cupbourd
(PG) Sun 4pm; Waiting (15) Sun 6.15pm;
The Bride Of Frankenstein (15) Sun 6.15pm;
The Bride Of Frankenstein (15) Sun 7.30pm;
Decament 18) Sun 8.45pm

Decament 18) Sun 8.45pm

Decament 18 Leavester Place WC2

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC1 [0171-37 8181] To Die For (15] Sar 1.30per, Loch Ness In Die Fox (15) an 1.30pm; Locu vess
[FG] Sur 3,45pm; Walmail & 1 (15) Sur
down Desperado (18) Sur 8.15pm; The
Usual Suspects [18] Sur 10.30pm Three
Colours Blue (15) Sur 2pm; La Haine Sur
4.15pm; A Boy's Life (18) Sur 6.30pm; The
Adventures Of Priscilla, Queen Of The
Desert (15) Sur 8.45pm

Propriess STURIOS CONDOS Color Read MINE STUDIOS CRIEMA Crisp Road

W6 1081-741 2255 Nosferatu 1PG | Sm 7pm; Metropolis (PG) Su 8-30pm Some Like It Hot (U) Sun 1pm + Salvatore Giuliano (18] 3 l0pm; Red Desert 151 Sun 6 15pm + EAssendura (PG) 8-30pm

### THEATRE

**West End** Manusces — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tise. [4]: Wed. [5]: Thu., [o]: Fri. [7]: Su CHARPTER TWO
Tent Conti and Sharon Gless star.
Gielged Steflesbury Avenue, WI (0171-494
50th) & Pice Cine. Mon-Fri 5.00, Sat 8.15, [5]
3.00, [7] 5.00, F10, Sb-E24, 150 mins. CHAPTER TWO

COMMUNICATING DOORS
Angela Thorne in Alan Ayekhourn's orms
Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/9/cr 8 savery Strand, WC2 (0171485 8889/9c 836 0479) & Charing X. Mort-Sat 7.30, [4][7] 3.00, ends 27 Apr. EL3-EA, 160 mins.

1730) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sar 7.45; [4][7] 3.00, £12-£30, restricted view £5. 160 mins.

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WALLAM SHAMESPEARE (ABRUMGEN) A Inst-farward through 37 plays. Criterion Piczadilly Circus, WI (0171-369 1747) @ Pice Circ. Wed-Sat 8.00, [5] 3.00, [7]

5.00, [1] 4.00, £5.50-£20, 120 mms. EMBGANE Samuel Beckett's surreal parable. Connear Enflaum Street, WC210171-369 1732; 9 Cere Sq. Mon-Sat S.00117 Apr. 7.001, [5][7] 4.00, ends 25 May, £12-£13.

BARRY AND ME Noticel Williams's savager councily.

Royal Court Stooms Square, SW1 10171-730
17451 Sto Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30, 1713.30, ends
20 Apr., 25-£18, ornes available, 140 mins.

AN IDEAL HUSBAND Marsin Shaw and Annu Cartaret star

Theater Repail Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) Price Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45, [4][7] 3.00, cuds 20 Apr., £10-£26, 165 mins ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

Olivier.
The Prince's Play Ken Stott in Tony Hazrison's were translation of Hugo's play.
Tonight 8.00.
Lynchon:
Neumarantz And Galidenstern Are Bund
Softon Russell Beale stars. Today 2.15 &

7.30, 135 muns.

The Ends Of The Earth David Lan's latest drama. Today 2.30 & 7.30, 150 mins.
Olivier & Lyttelton: £7.50-£22.50. Cottestoe
£10-£14.50. Day seats from 10am. South
Bank [017]-928.2252] BR/& Waterloo. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

The Barbicon: The Taming Of The Shrow Josic Lawrence stars. Reday 2.00 to 7.15, 165 mins. The Ptt:

PASSION
Michael Ball and Maria Friedman star.
Queen i Stinitesbury Avenue. W1 10171-494
SS90kg: 344411 © Picc Circ. Mos-Sat 8.00,
[4][7] 3.00, £13.50-£20, 135 mins. SETTLEMT
Machael Gambon and Lie Williams star.
Ibudham's Charing Cross Road, WCZ.
11(17): 369 1736/c: 867 11111 & Loc Sq.
Mon-Sat K.00, [7]: 3.00, ends 27 Apr. 59-50-

220G 9AT TAP DOSS
R.w Lap spectacle from Offvier Award-winning choreographer Dein Perry.
Ltra: Shafteshury Avenue, WI (1) 71-494
SMS] @ Piec Circ. Moor. Thu 8.01, Fri & Sat
9.10 & 8.45, ends 8 June, £5-£22-50, 90 mins.

hend's hit Broadway me Felic nowinstants and natural manual Sheftenbury Shaftenbury Avenue, WC2 10171-379 53991 & Tott Ct Rd. Moo-Sat \$10, [4][7] 3.00, £10.50-£30, 135 enins. MESPOTTING

irvine Weish's insight into drug culture.

Whitehall Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735)

BR/& Charing X. Mon-Pri 8.00, Sat 8.30,
[4][7] 5.00, ends I June, £5-£16. 130 mins. THEVE ADORT MEN Reginald Rose's Fifties countroom dramo.

Comedy Poston Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731)

◆ Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45 (22 Apr.,
7.00), [4] 2.30, [7] 4.00, £10-£24.

**Beyond the West End** ARIS THEATE Brethern of the Brush Jimeny Murphy's acclaimed, brutally comic first play abou three Dublin house painters. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 5.30pm, & 8.30pm, ends 8.Ja

68.50-£15, conce available. Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-636 2132) & Leic Squar BUSH THEATRE Clocks and Whiteles Surrori Adamson's irony-laden debut play stars Michael Cashmun and Rate Beckinsale, Mon-Sat

Sprn., ends 27 Apr. £9.50, concs £6. Shop Bush Green, W12 (0151-743 3388) ◆ Shepherds Bush. CREEKING! THEOLE The Last Romanties, Vigel Williams' comic look at a long-running academic debate, set between 1920 and 1908. Mon-Set 7.45pm, mats Sat 1.20pm, cash 4 May, £7.75-£15.50, exper available. Crooms Hill, SE10 (UIS).

858 7755) BR: Greenwich. HAMPSHEAD THEATEE HAMP-STEAU IMEALIN:
Seame Summy Buy Rupert Everett and Cotte,
Redgrave are among a high profile cost in
Martin Sherman's latest drama, Mon-Sa;
Byun, mais Sat 4pm, booking until 11 May.
£11-£13-50, Mon & mer Sat £8, const
available, Avenue Road, NW3 (0171-722,
9301) & Swine Cottage.

1206'S ESEAN Definition Books Move Over Durling and Sentimental Journey are account that performed in this Doois Day tribute, Tax-Sat Span, mata Sat & San 3-30pm, code 36 May. £10-£11, concs £6-£7. Upper Street, N1 (0171-236-1916) & Angel.

68,MRE THE THEODIE
The Wergs Isla Blade in Sonan Glaspe II's 1921
tragi-comedy, Mon-Set 7.65pm, mast Set
4pm, 18 Apr., 2.30pm, ends 4 May. 77-512-50,
comes available. Clarence Screet, Richmond (0181-9403633) BR/G Richmond.

HEADE OF STRINE, BUTTL COURT?
The Thickness Of Side Clare McLatyre's
Intest drawns probes the otherior motives of
ourward kindness. Most-Sat 7.45pm, mass Sat
4pm, ends 20 Apr. 28, Most, mas Sat & Cones
£S. Shoure Square, SW1 (01.71-730.1745)

TRETCLETIERINE Byrne and The Brether Eamon Morriskey's gendy humorous solv show full of storytelling and myths. More-Sax Ryan, mets Sax Ayon, ends 27 Apr. £7.50-£13, cones available, Mon

d: mat Sat pay what you can, Kaburu High Read, NW6 (0171-328 1009) & Kilburu. Around the country

Bath

THEMPIE BUYAL
More Vow Rause Adam Faith in Michael
Penyu's leok the chash between personal
privacy and open gaverament. Today 2,30pm
& 7,30pm, 67,419,50, concer available.
Savelines (01,225-448844ec 448861)

Brighton

THE RIVE ROTAL

My Couch Rackel Kate O'Mara in Disease Morgan's adaptation of the Maurier's Victorian frama. Rolay Apin & 7.45pm, £5-£15.50, comes available. New Rd (0) 273-338488]

Bromley CHURCHILL THEATRE hird New musical thriller starring Dave Willens as the Doctor with a unicovert after ego. Today 2.30pm & 7.45pm, £9.50-£14.50, comes available. High St 10151-460 66771

Colchester MERCHAY TREATRE

Colden Cirls Drama following the ambitions of a women's athletic team. Mon-Wed 7,30pm, Thu-Sat Spin, mars 18 Apr. 3pm, 30, 27 Apr. 45 Apr. 45 S-L11.75, Balkerte Gate (01.206-573948)

Gaildford YVORNE ARMAND TREATRE
That Good Might Trended Sinden stars. Roday
2.30pm & Span. £10-£19.50, cross available.
Millbrook (01-483-44000)

Horncharch QUEER'S TABALTIE
Plus 9 From Outer Space - The Munical
Alaskel adaptation of Ed Wood's 50 Star.
The-Fri 8pm, Inday, 20 Apr. 6pm & 9pm,
ends 20 Apr. 125 90-612-90, mats \$5.50, coors
available. Billet Lane [01708-443333]

Malveru

MANUAL PERMINAL THEATHE

Salad Baya Ned Sharrin directs the hit Filhes

salad Baya Ned Sharrin directs the hit romantic musical, with Kit & the Wid Today 2.30pm & Span £10-£14, cones available, Malvern Festival Theatre, C Road (01684-892277)

Newbory PROFESSION THEATEE Bring Miss Saley Al Matthews and Helan Ryan in Affred Usay's Pulliant Prize-winning play, Moo-Sat 7-30pm, man Thu 6-32 2-30pm, 11 May, 6-30pm, ands 11 May, 26-£13-55, concernyallable, Bagnor (01635-46044)

Norwich

THERTIE BOYM.
THERTIE BOYM.
THERTIE BOYM.
THERTIE THERTIES AVAILABLE AND GENERAL
JONES IN JAMES GOLDMAN'S DESCRIPTION of JUST STATE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE AND ADMINISTRATION OF T Plymouth

THE ATME BOYAL
The Changing Bases Dovid Storrey's look at the citrols of professional regby players. Today 2.30 pm & 7.30 pm. 88.34-7.16-50, const45-86-50. Royal Parade (01752-267222) Poole

POBLE ARTS CENTRE: 8. Pasalounto Wessen Ray Mellor's Stirley Valentine-style drams stars Stephanic Cole. Today 2.30pm & 7.45pm. £10.415.00, comas svailable, Kingland Road (01.202-685.222) Watford

PMACE THEATME
Pace Musical about a com-man's exploits.
Mon-The 7.45pm, Fri & Sat Spm, mats 17
Apr, 2.30pm, 27 Apr, 4 Mny, 3pm, ends 4
Mny, £44.12, comes available.
Clarendon Road [01923-225671]

**EXHIBITIONS** 

Cambridge PIZZERLIAN PROPERTY

Printers Physical Art & Braign 1945-1995 Postwer craft and design including work by Hans Coper and Rober Welch, Tuc-Sat (Dam-Span, San 21-5yan-Span, east 2 Jano, free. Trampington St 101223-33290) London

CHENTAGED INSTITUTE CALLERSES Thereas Calesburget, Unique opportunity to see over 50 drawings, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun Apm-6pm, ends 36 May, tree.

BRANCH PICTURE SALLERY
Some and Dunth Drawings of louds and
managements by Set John Sound. The-Fri 10am-Span, Sat 1 lam-Span, Sun 2pm-ends 12 May, £2, conc £1, free Friday, Gallery Road, SE21 (0181-693 5254) HR: West Dulwich/North Dulwart.

BATWARD CALLERY Spellbound Art & Film Art and Olm control Solutions Art & Fins Art and time captures including Padazz. Hins, Green-way and Gordon, Mon-Sun 10am-Span Iwail Span Tue & Wedl, each 6 Moy. Es. cures £2.50. Behvaders Road, SEI (0171-40043421 BR/6 Waterloo.

PERCELL ROOM
Diver: HE-SusyThe Fetabling Bride Surreal and same from Liz Aggiss and Colorie Sadier, Tought Sput, D. Courts 16, South Bankt0171-900-42421 BR-© Waterlino ICA CALLERY 2072 OPERA HOUSE
Royal Ballet: Shaffe Sor Peter Wright's
production designed by John F Macfertane.
Tasky "Jon & Typu. E. 255.51. Covent Garden.
Carden (0171-5044001) & Covent Garden.

Some Revisited Record in pun and ink of Some Revisited Record in pun and ink of Some State of the County: Two Sat 10mm-Span, ends 31 Aug. Free, Lancoin's Lant Fields 10171-405 21071 & Horburn.

Multimal Gallery
Machinese from the Dorin Pamping Colley
Inchedes Velazpusz, Caracci and Raptinel.
Mon-Sai 10am-tyen, Son Zune-fynn, endi 19
May, fore, Trafalgar Spuare, WCZ (1471-830
3321) & Charang Cross.

OFFERS GALLERY, BUCKERSHAM PALACE Leonarde de Vinel One bundred drawings from the Oncen's collection. Men. Sam 9.30m.4.31pm. enuls 12 Jan. 1947. E3.50. cons. 4.231.19 Victoria.

BECHARD SREEN
LS. LOWEY Print real paintings of industrial
North, NAvy-Fri (Dem-S. Nym. Sai 1) amSpin, ends A May, free, New Bond Surcet, WI
[Ul 71-499 5553] & Green Park.

BOYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
Product Leighton 1200-1296 Major claws
historical Victorian pursier. Ends 21 Apr.
25.50, cones £3.50. Custore Callabotte: The Universe Impressioned Large schedum of paintings.
Men-Sun 10mm-tpen, crass 23 June £4.50,
cones £3.50 Barlington House. Presadily.
W7 (0171-439 7438) ◆ Presadily Cares.

Statics BALLETT
Young Americans Part 2 Jacqueline
Humphries, Richard Prince, Tony Oursier.
Charles Ray and Kiki Smith. The Son
Lincon-Opin, and the Lincon The free, Pre-Son
5.54. Bombary Rand, NWH [1471-524
8299] BR: South Hampmend.

CLASSICAL Cardiff ST DAYO'S HALL BBC National Orchostra and Chorus of Yadan Neclegam Buch vlarge-scale Alass in B mater Sun 7 Myon, 26-219. The Hayes [15222-878441]

State contribe
Adonals Ballet Company: Arabian Nights Soc
Barnetapic San 7, Nipon £12, cones £8.
Cheam Read [0181-66114 [6]

SEMPENTINE CALLERY
Joss-Michel Respekt Survey of his complex,
raw images, Mon-Sun 10em-spm, ends 21.
Apr, free, Kensington Gradens, W2 (017)402 5075) & South Kensington. SYSTEMATICAL PART Brass music by Howarth and Ellerby, with enrangements of Elgar, Holst, Brahms and errangements of Edger, Prott, Stramus and others. Today 3, 30pm, E6-E1. Stramus and others. Today 3, 30pm, E7-E8. Stramus and Stramus Strains and Late symphotics with his Octomistr. Tourght 3, 30pm, E7-S0-C22-S0. Bollium arg Symphoty Orchestra/farvi Strambers of Strambers with his symphoty Strambers with his symphoty strains and Strambers with his symphoty. German 90 pountings and 70 watercolours. Ends 28 Apr. £7, comes £4. Emis 25 Apr. 1.7, cones 10.4.
Hartene Busses Ink and wash works by Dusch
painter, Man-Sun Illum-3. Styrm, ends 30 June.
free. Millbank (0171-8878000) ◆ Pimileo. ORWICH AETS CENTRE

Spelinster g Symphony Drahestra Intervi Shelins' 2nd Symphony with his symphonic poem Zapiela, Sun 4yan. E7.50-E2.50. Ecthonium g Symphony with his symphonic poten Tapiola, Sun Bym. E7.50-E2.50. Barbacin Centre, EC2.10171-638 8891) & Moorgate/Barbacan. When the state of the state of

CORREST CHARGEST PICTORE SALLEST
Patronage in the 190t Century With drawin
by Zuscarro, Michelmigeto and Baddeo, Me
Sal 10, 30em-1yon, Jun-4-30ym, Sun Jun4-30ym, ends 3 June, £1, comes 50p.
Christ Church College [01865-276150] Helios Orchestra of Landou/Phillip Vivaldi's Four Sensors and Haydn's 44th Symphony, Sun 7.30pm, £6-£10, Smith Square (0)71-22, 1051) ◆ Westminster

SQUETE (0)71-ZZ 1061) 

WESTELL ROOM

Rub Ryder/Sars Stone Vocal and
experimental musics by Crumb, Cage. Sceles
and others, Sur 97-30gm. £5.50 & £7.50.
South Bank Centre, SEI [0171-960 4242]

ER/W Waterloo.

gerseit ELEABEIN BALL Hallman Vapth Wand Orchestra/Taman Works by Khachatturan, Lindgyen, Rimsky-Koreakow and Prokotkev, Sam Spm. £7-£12, Pater Keffa Piano pockal of Brahms. Boethwen, Schumann and Chopin. Sun 7.45pm, £6-£12-50. South Bank Contre, SE1 (0171-960-6242) BR/© Waherloo. OWNER ELITABETH RALL RUTAL PESTIVAL SALL

ARMAL O'HAMLEN AT M.BONSSMENT THEATRE Tonight Spm. Gordon Street, WC1 (0171-388 88CT) BR/O Euston, £7.50, comes £6.50. and 3rd Symphonies, Sam 3pm, £5.£30. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo, WIGHING RALL
Freis Mark Cello sounts by Prokudiev,
Minskowsky and Brahms, Tonight 7, Stepn.
£6-£12.

Britten and Rochey Bennett, San 11,20pm, £7. Wigmore Struct, W1 (0171-935 2141) • Brod Struct Oxford Circus. COMEST STURE PLATERS
Jesie Lawrence, Faul Merson, Ned
Mullarier, Lee Sampson, Jim Soccrecy &
Richard Verach, Sun Ferr, Orensky Street,
SWI (01426-914433) & Premabilly Circus, £9.

Northampton

marks his 80th birth by with Beethoven's Tiple Concerto and Brahms' ist Sympton Tonight 7,30pm, £9,£25, Guildhell Read (016)4-246111

Adottics Ballet Company: Arabias Hights New family-mented ballet chereographed by Jan Kitteridge: Tenight 7.45pm, £7-05.50, omes £5-£6.51, Boutport Street 181271-342421 London PROBLEM COVERED SERVICE Rosen A revival of Keith Warner's production of Puocini, with Janker Cairus in the title role Touight 7.30pm, 08-150. St Martin's Lame, WCZ (0171-632 €W0) ← Lete Square. PLACE THEATHE
Claims Rose Ensemble: Swint Boys Russ explores the way women purely emiliances. Tompth Spon. £0. come £6. Duke's Russl.
WC1 (11171-3871)(511 © Euston.

Richmond ICHMOND THEATRE TRAVELLING OPERA Carmen Peter Knapp's staging of Bizet. Tought 7.15pm. £8-£20. The Green [018]. 94000881

Yeova OCTRGOR: ENGLISH TOWNING OPENA Rigolatto Stephen Medcalf durots Verdi's moldic-period drama, Touight 7,30pm, £9.50-£10.54. (01935-22884)

Cardiff Bort Lasf More dates from the uncless Wagnerian rocker. Cardiff International Arena Botetown (1) 222-2301301 Sun n.30ym, (17.54-C3).

The Arling Lindy Hopperus A Hight At The Cotton Cath Harkstool the Tolkscooked, Sun 7,345m, \$10,504.1250, Kown Hall, Blagrasse Streen (01754-59159)1 London. The Poster Hyrds and Heatle influenced only lege rockers. -Brons 2 Charing Cross Road WC2 (0171-434 (MD)) & Touchbam Court

Road. Foreght 7pm, Cr.
Suchs Fizz Euro-champs play a intechy
down chib. The Grand Clapham Junction
SW11 10171-738 98886c 344 00441 Bloodvetsel's reformed ska merchants. Mean Fiddler Harlesden High Street NW10 10161-961 54941 BR: Willesden Junction.

Finight Rym. 19. Wagesten Junction, Finight Rym. 19. Retails Herchart Former 10.RE Maniaes super-wagewiter. Shephent's Bush Empire Shephend's Bush Green W12 (1918) 7-70 74741 ⊕ Shephend's Bush. Tonight 76 (1 to Surperson )
70 (1)
Alasia Morissetta, Bosayerack Hugely
succedul prol-grunge waiter plays with
melodic metallicate Honeyerack
Shepteral's Bush Empire Sheptheral's Bush
Green W12 (0181-740 7474) 

Shepberal's Bush. 14-16 Apr., 7pm., phose for jazz, world, folk etc

Chefterham laz fastival All-sar hac-up features Stephane Orappelli, Freddie Hub-hard, Ray Brown, George Fame, Ralph Towner, Trilok Gurtu, Martin Toylor, Steps a head and Roots. Vancus venues Today & Sum, phone 01242-227979 for details.

London

Max Basch & Archie Sheep Diductic allthen Basek & Archie Stopp Directic air-doper from the drum and sax legands. Queen Elizabeth Hall South Bank Centre SEI (0171-960 42C) & Whiterioo. Today 10.30am/8.30pm 10.30pm, all day £15, con-cert only £12.50.

cert only finally.

Pharenh Sanders Quartet Spirinus say teou.

The Rhythret Chappe Market N1 (0171-713

5839) 

Angel. Tonight Spin, £15, court

£12.

Pace de Lucia Flamenco guitarist. Royal Funina Hall South Benk Centre SEI 10171-960 4242) BR/& Waterloo. Tonight & Sun, 7,30pm, £10-£25,

**EVENTS** 

Carniar idee Playdays Live Stage version of the children's television programme, Corn Endungs Wheeler Street (01.223-357851) Today

Capterbury AR Bahe and The Third Of Bagdud Playtime Production's show for children of all ages. Markove Theatr The Friats (01227-787787) Sun 2pm, £4.50, child £4.

Cardiff Viden Silps A look at the historical and cul-nural background of these sailing wessels. Welsh Industrial & Manione Museum Bute Street (01222-481919) Ends 21 Apr., phone

Carshalton Taley From Anderson Musical version of Hans Christian Anderson's tales for ages four to eleven, Charles Over Stalks Theatre High Street (1918-170 0850) 13 & 14 Apr. 230pm, \$4.50, cours \$4.

Cheltenham

The Hingle Clown Show Clowning antics for ages four and over. Everyman Theatre Regent Street (01242-572573) Today 11am, 52.

Chepstow
Disease Readshow Activities and games bringing prehistoric days to life for children of all ages. Drill Hall Lower Church Street (01201-625981) Mon-Sun Hann-Syn, ends 24 Apr. EL comes 50p, under 185 & Monmouth Borough Residents free. **Dartington** 

Pur for manner Writing Five day international symposium including intensive workshops, conferences and presentations. Damington Arts Corne Dartington Hall (01803-863073) Boday & Sun, phone for details.

Gravesend Gravescari
Sooty is Space Fun-filled trip to the Millsy
Way for all the family. Woodville Halls Civic
Centre, Windmill Street (01474-337460)
Enday I put & 3,30pm, phone for details.

Lendon

LOSHROOT

Vanished Bardens Of Rome Evocation of a
Roman landscaped garden as it might have
appeared in the aghievath contary. Academia Italiana Grosvenor Place SWI (0171235 0303) & Hyde Park Corner. Mon-Sun 10am-opm, end 1 May, f.4, cones £2. Lundon Efreinephog & Small Rained Rain One-day extravaganta for bird keepers. Alexandra Palace Wood Green N22 10181-30am-Spm, £5. cones £4, child £1, under

Recycling Exhibation of work from 24 contemporary designers using recycled materials. Crafts Council Pentonville Road N1 10171-278 77001 © Kings Cross/Angel, Tue-

Ges & Masic Of The See Trai

als. Crops Compare removarie reason with 10171-278 77001 © Kings Cross/Angel. Tue-Sat 11 am-open, ends 21 Aps, free. Lunden Book Fahr Wide range of rare, antiquarian and secondhand books, maps, engraved and decorative prints. Hosel Russell Square W.7 (10171-837 6478) © Russell Square W.7 (10171-837 6478) © Russell Square W.7 (10171-837 6478) © Russell Square W.7 (10171-837 6478) Restell Square W.7 (10171-797 files) from the Manager Fahr Wide display of generalize, seramics and much more. Rensington Polace Hawl De Vera Cardens W8 (10171-1078121) Sun 11 am-Span. £1.

Landon @ Film Exploring a certificator of film in the capital locking at ways. London has been used as both the setting and enhect of filmnaking. Museum Of Landon London Wall [10171-600 36991 © Barbiarm.] The Sat 10 am-5. Sopra, Sun 12 noom-5. Sopra, ends 27 Oct. £1.50, cons. £1.75.

Shandles & Bitanle Of The Sen Traditional

Rais, the Shanty Crew and Bresun's Call.
Today & Sun 12 30pm-4 30pm.
Blood, Sun And Ice Exhibition charting the
lives and discoveries of explorers Sar Francis
Drake, Captini James Cook and Sir John
Franklin, Earls 30 June.
Off The Shedes Unique record of the life
and work of Britain's Rewal Daclevarie in

off the Steem's Royal Dockyards in the eighteenth century. National Maritime Missaum Rouney Road SE10 (0.181-884-842) BR: Maze Hill. Mon-Sun Ham-Spr ends 30 Oct, £5.50, concs £4.50, child £3, family £16.

Tyring Needlecraft Fair Over 150 suppliers Spring Mandlecraft from Over 150 supplies, covering embendedry, cross stirch, needle-point, lace and putchwork also lectures and workshops. Olympia Hammiersmith Road 99/14/0171-003 33441 © Earls Court/Olympia. Today 9.30am-5.30pm, Sun 9.30am-5pm, £8, conc. £7, child £5. 9.3km-5pm, 25, CRRS 27. CRRS 25.

Beauty 8. The Beant 6n fee Original ice hallet for all the family with music and lyrics by
David Essex. Royal Albert Field Kensington
Gore SW7 (0171-589 8212) 49 High Street
Kensington. Today & Sun. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, 110-825.

Ten MAL Sub-Striets for and object spitters

See Me! Exhibition for and about visitor. with special needs, raising questions about society and how it copes with the issue of disability. Science Museum Exhibition Road SW7 (0171-938 8080) ◆ South Kensington.

orocz £2.60. conce £250.

Challature Live production of the popular
TV show, Wembley Arena Empire Way
(0181-90) 1234) 49 Wembley Park, Today &
Sun, 1.20pm & 7.30pm, £19-£22.50.

Oxford altroiduries From Islanic Journeys Sheila

Enterolderice From Internet Journeys Special Paine's journey through Asia to discover more about its testiles. Piu Rivers Museum South Parks Road 101865-270927) Mon-San Igno-4,30pm, ends 20 Apr., free.

**AUCTIONS** 

AUG I NURS
Constance: Major spring auction, including residual contents from Efficides
House, Stodmarsh, Tuescoy (10.30am).
The Cantestury Auction Gatteries, 40 Santion Road West (012.7-163337).
Mellington, Somerael: Small library of books, including Victorian botany, plus furniturie, ceramics, prictices, Thesday (11mm). Wellington Salercoms, Chitum House, Mantle Street 10:823-664815).
Newmarket: Sporting sale - Jishing Lackle, httpsies, nasidermy, books, gans, pictures, Mondry (6pm). Vost's, Tautersalls 101638-6613151.

plus shipping, pine. rep-oduction and co temporary furniture and effects. Monday (1pm). Barber & Son. Tower House Sale room, Maer Lanc 101 (0-653402). Boston Sac Named Lancies pins lighter

room, Marc Lanc 101 (0-655402).

Bostou Spat Named 1 rumics plus lighters, pens, jewellers, luth. village hall, Monday (6-30pm) (Malcolm's 01977-94971).

Basalbag: Carden machinery, tools and equipment a newers, striumers, chainsaws, header cunters and numery stock, next Saturday [10am] at the Cattle Market, Great Knotly's Street. Thimbleby & Shoreland (01743-5086110).

Southampton: Contents of a Chinese Southmenter: Contents of a Chinese restaurant and a general wholesaler's stock of consumables, electrical goods, bousehold ware and deaning products, Thursday (10am) at 72-94 Millbank Street, Northam, Millbanks (10703-228179).

Mahashury: New kitchenalia and com-

moreial estering equipment, Tuesday 11 mm) at the Gloucester Road Trading Estate, Hildisch & Co (01666-822577). Stratingham: A warehouseman's stock-toys, drapery, fancy goods. Wed (11 am) at 308 Summer Lane, Aston, Sevens Cham-rien & State (012) 442 10679. pion & Stater (0121-643 1942). Swindow: Computers and peripherals, tomorrow (10.30am) at the Park South Junior School, Abuek Systems [01722-

Handre Schau, Assessing State Antiques Trade Gazette (0171-930 4957)

Pirst Chelson Art Feir, Chelson Old Town Hall, Fri-Sun Pennan 01444-482514). Eponen Recoccurse, Tuesday | Continuity Fairs 01584-875634).

# Church services

First Sunday after Easter CHAPTERY CHIEDRA: Ann HC 9 Noon Maine Han Some Friedman, Misso O quan glymosum (Victo-Sung Euchariat. Missa O quan glomaum (Victoria). The Rev PT. Mackennie: J Uspm Evensong. Marrill in E. 6.30pm Compline. The Nev J.A. Thadara. 100 MISSER 8am, A 45 arg HC, 10 am Sung Eustatrot.
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Meterere nostri (Tallia). Canon Sung Eustatrot.
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3, 30 pm Evensong, Blaze in Binomer, n. 20 pm Evensong

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BY COMERGIA: 8.15 am HC. 19.30 am Sung Du-charma, Massa breves (Gabrielli, Camon Jage, 3.85 pm Levensong, Stanford in C.

BORGESER BOSEERIES S. am FR. 10.15 am Euchartes, Myasa Lor, four worces (Byrd). Camon Ruger Grey, 12.15 pm [R., 3 pm Evensong, 58 P. and express (Hom-olis). eibi 

GRUPPR CHRENOL: Sam HC, The Rev Dr Lut Fab-ch (4 Sam Suzz, Enchant), Calvens in the Portion thade. Canon John Sch dick! 11 Sam Matics, Sun-noll at Bites. Canon Douglas Bryant: A. Wynn Even-sons. Canon Dr Maurewi Palmez.

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G. Nym Litz, Celebration of the Researcement, The Cent.

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Egyet Libergy, 10am Mahm. Hate Later Libergy, 5.34pm Laster Vespers, with Byzaniuse Chant and Choral Menks, song or Greek.

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man. Jumple Churck, Floot Street, EC4, 8,30am HC, 11 ISam Morning Prayer, Wood in E, The Master.

St Ottoche's Charch of Sentand, Pont Street, SWI: Ham, The Res Calum I MocLoud, 6.30pm, The Res Calum I MocLoud. Street Church of Soutland, Rossell Street, WC2: 11.15m, Mr Peter F. Green, 6.30pm, Mr Tim-othy Fletcher for Lady of the featurapies, Waywork Street, W.F. Ram.
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voices | Tulling: Layers, Apan. (Spin Marc,
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The Grating Brompings Road, SW7, 7am, Sam, Sam,

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Government Auction News 10171-353 7300. Fax-U-Back Hottine 0336-423488).

Windladon Autique & Collectors at the Dog & Fox. SW19, Immorrow (0171-793 0903). Decafier, Institution, Battersea Town Hall, Lavender Hill. London SW11 | Decofairs 0181-663 3323).

t0nm Mess: Ham Solemn Mass, Massa surrend pus-tor buss: (Lasens); 12.30pm Mess; 3.30pm Solemn Vesters, Ad regiss ups dapes (Washington); 4.30pm, 7ym Muss. The Good Suphard and Gut Life, Station Rend, Penge East, SEZI: 9.25cm Romey; (Nem Trislentine Mess.)

Oly Regin, Holborn Vindoc, ECT: 10.30mm, Anthony

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Rescue 9pm C4. This new six-part series charting the history of the emergency services since 1945 begins by comparing two underground fires one beneath Smithfield Market in 1958 and the King's Cross disaster of 1987 (1776).

Film: Red Rock West (John Dahl 1992 US) 10pm C4. Penniless drifter Nicolas Cage is mis-taken for a hit man and sent to kill Lara Flyon Boyle. Enter the real assassin....(312115). Omnibus 10.10pm BBC1 (not Scot). Spike Milligan (above) in his own words (5452318),

Beyond the Millennium 8.40am R4. Six programmes in which specialists in different fields give their visions of the world in 2010 - starting with economist Noriko-Hama, who foresees Europe breaking into a patchwork of city-states.

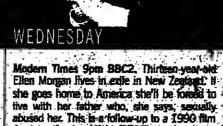


The Works 8pm BBC2. New series of onusual tales from the worlds of art and design begins with an engineer discovering a fatal flaw to the Without Walts: the Eigh Marbles 9pm C4.
William G Stewart presents an unusual version of his daytime game show Fifteen to One, to show that the Eigh Marbles should be returned.

A particular of the control of the con

Film: Apartment Zero 12.30am BBC2 (Martin Donovan 1988 U.O. Just two words: Colin Firth (50833).

It's a Cat's Life 9pm R2. The unhealthy British obsession with cats - one in four homes has one, £533m spent on cat food each year, the cat population expected to hit eight million in 2000 - comes under scrutiny from Willie Rushton.



documenting her silight (8727). Madson 9.30pm BBC1. Ian McShane drops Lovejoy for this new, darker role as a man who served eight years for a murder he didn't commit, gaining a law degree while inside. Now he wants to become a solicitor (above) (233659).

Key Witness 8.35pm R4. Sir Frank Roberts, 89 this year and one of the last Foreign Office mandarins from the era of empire, remembers meetings with Stalin, Tito and Khrushchev in the first of three conversations with Alan Watson.

Hollywood Pets 8.30pm ITV. From the maker

of Hollywood Men and Hollywood Women, a new series looking at the barking deploins of La-La land and their pels, We begin with a "pig fashion consultant" (ebove) (6760).

Witness Spin CA. Interviews of survivous Rom Waco, Texas, some of whom are waiting for David Koresh to return as messian (7741). Film: The Glass Monagerie Paul Newman 1967 US) 12:55am C4. With Joanne Woodward and John Malkovich (54920432).

Analysis 8pm R4. "Defusing the Population Bomb". Ever since Malthus, people have worried about there being too many other people. Richard D North looks at the case for thinking that an expanding population may not be such a problem.

Have I Got News for You 10pm 8BC2. Paul

Have I Got News for You Topin 1992. Paul Mestin steps down as regular trans captain, not in its replaced by a tub of laid but by a rotating guest celebrity, starting with Eddia Izzard (above) (61677).

Firm: Futher to Be (Lasse Hallsfrom 1979 Swe) 12.50am BBC2. Swedistr director Hallsfrom has had mixed fortunes since arriving in Hollywood on the back of bis My Life as a Dog. This is an earlier piece, about a backelor whose life is complicated by his piditient's pregnancy (645317). plicated by his girlfriend's pregnancy (645317).

One in the Jungle 10pm R1: Poor old Peelie gets pushed sideways to Sunday nights, and in his place we get a showcase for DIs like Det, Navigator and GQ Feerless and, this week, LTJ Bukern. Apparently they're well known among the younger set.

## Sunday television and radio

### BBC<sub>1</sub>

7.30 Jim Henson's Animal Show (7536820). 7.55 Playdays (S) (4731820). 8.15 Italianissimo (R) (4472220). 8.30 Breakfast with Frost, James Goldsmith and

by Robert Hanks

Yehudi Menuhin have an early start (54462). 9.30 Glimpses of God (R) (5231707).

9.45 First Light. Includes an interview with the parents of Ecstasy death teenager Leah Betts (874004).

10.15 See Heart (S) (866085).

10.45 This Multimedia Business (R) (S) (4598714).

11.00 Hidden Empire (R) (S) (8714). \*

11.30 My Brilliant Career. Derek Hatton (R) (S) (9443).

12.00 Country File (S) (96004).

12.30 On the Record (82630).

1.30 EastEnders Omnibus (R) (S) (7414530). \*
2.50 Till Calamity Jane (David Butler 1953 US). Big, bouncy musical western, with Doris Day at her most likeable as the torncat romancing Howard Keel's Wild 8ill Hickok (69448998). 4.30 Biteback. Viewers' complaints (8731917). 5.10 Masterchef 1996. Chef Germain Schwab and

Ulrika Jonsson are the guest tasters (5699298). \* 5.45 News; Weather (222998). \* 6.05 Regional News (663882).

6.10 Songs of Praise From the Holy Trinity Church, Leicester (S) (269882), \* 6.45 Antiques Roadshow. From Broxbourne in

Hertfordshire (S) (969530). \* 7.30 Hamish Macbeth Alex's book programme on Lachie Jr's pirate radio station leads to a rash iterary interest in Lochdubh (S) (656714). \* 8.20 Birds of a Feather. The one where Tracey, Sharon

and Dorien become sure that Chigwell's new resident is the Princess of Wales (R) (842917). \* 8.50 News; Weather (882795). \* 9.05 FIRST The Addams Family (Barry Sonnenield 1991 US). Enjoyable filmisation of the TV series goes back to the original New Yorker carboons of Charles Addams for its look and ghoulish sense of

humour. Some excellent casting too, with Anjelica humour. Some excellent casting too, with Anjelica Huston as Morticia, Raul Julia as Gomez, Christopher Lloyd as Uncle Fester and the striking Christina Riccl as Wednesday (S) (38653820). 10.40 Heart of the Matter. David Puttnam, director of The Killing Fields, returns to Cambodia to explore the new killing fields created by thousands of

unexploded landmines (148917).

11.20 IIII in My Daughter's Name (Jud Taylor 1992 US). After a teenage girl's rapist and murderer is acquitted, the girl's mother takes matters into her own hands. Stars Donna Mills (S) (179917). \*

12.50 Weather (2698825). To 12.55am.

REGIONS. NI: 2.50pm Now You're Talking. 3.20 Irish

Cup Soccer Special. 4.10 The Pink Parither Show.

### BBC<sub>2</sub>

6.15 Open University: Pure Maths (7673269). 6.40 Maths Methods (8675207). 7.05 Antony and Cleopatra Workshop (6416998). 7.30 Siology: A Tale of Two Cells (7534462). 7.55 Public Space. Public Work (4720714). 8.2D Shooting Video

History (4588743).

9.10 Children's BBC: The Family Ness. 9.15 The All New Popeye 5how. 9.40 Highlander, 10.05 The Littlest Pet Shop. 10.30 Grange Hill. 10.55 The Ant and Dec Show. 11.20 Charlie Brown and

Ant and Dec Show. 11.20 Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show.

11.45 Star Trek (R) (9314269), \*

12.35 The O Zone. P.J & Duncan tour Japan (3748424).

1.05 Singled Out (S) (86909269),

1.25 Police Squad (R) (86903085).

1.50 The History Man. The English Civil War Society help illuminate the events of 1648 (51309801),

2.00 English Moonfleet (Fritz Lang 1955 US),

Stewart Granger, George Sanders and Joan Greenwood become Involved with smusplers in Greenwood become involved with smugglers in mid-18th-century Dorset (9496066).

3.25 The Prisoner of Zenda (Richard Thorpe 1952 UK). Stewart Granger again, this time staming opposite James Mason In this, the third screen version of Anthony Hope's swashbuckler (31957240).

5,05 Rugby Special. Highlights from Bristol v Leicester
(S) (6426207).
6,05 Haunt of the Fishing Owls. The African Owl (R)

(S) (781627). \* 6.35 Rebellion. This 250th anniversary of the Battle of Culloden drama-documentary tells the story of the Jacobites in the first half of the 18th century.

when they sought to restore the Catholic Stuart kings to the British throne. What - and miss out on those whacky Hanovarians? (710191). \*
7.25 Culloden Peter Watkins' film recreating the battle of Culloden. See Preview, p28 (2792004). \*
8.35 Fantasy Football League. Melvyn Bragg and Alan Davies are on the lads's sofa (S) (751117).

9.05 Golf - US Masters 1996. Steve Rider Introduces coverage of the closing holes of the final round from Augusta (Due to live golf coverage following programme subject to change) (S) (98994379). 12.00 The Phenix City Story (Phil Karlson 1955 US). Reportedly gripping newsreel-style recreation of the battle against corruption in an Alabama town, with the documentary technique taken to absurd lengths. An actor playing one of the murder

victims was apparently made to wear the dead man's clothes (Then Weatherview) (70202).

2.00 The Learning Zone: FETV Short Cuts: Job Seeking and Interviews (28009). 4.00 Suenos: World Spanish (44221). 5.00 Business and Work (67738). 5.30 Winning (85047). To 6.00am.

### **ITV/London**

6.00 GMTV 6.00 The Sunday Review. 6.3D News and Sport. 7.00 The Sunday Programme (87288). 8.00 Disney Club (S) (82986849). 10.15 Link (S) (5058191). \*
10.30 Morning Worship. From Fort Regent, Jersey (S) (99882). \*

11.30 Blessed Are They. The composer John Tavener considers the tilblical text 8lessed Are the Pure in Heart (S) (6553085). 11.55 Chalke Talk (S) (8347530). 12.30 Crosstalk (19443).

1.00 News, Weather (42760578), \*
1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby (\$) (3444820),
2.00 Yesterday's Heroes, Footballing legends George
Best and Rodney Marsh (3527).

2.30 The Sunday Match. Live coverage of Charlton Athletic v Derby County (54214627).

Athletic V Derby Courty (54214527).

5.20 The London Programme. Ex-Arsenal boss George Graham talks about his sacking over allegations of a £425,000 "bung" (1155356).

5.50 Local News, Weather (708733), \*
6.15 News, Weather (144172), \*
6.30 Surprise! Surprise! (\$) (39240). \*
7.30 Doctor Finlay. Costume medical drama set in the light 1040s. Inset finds a day-old halo abandoned

late 1,940s. Janet finds a day-old baby abandoned

on the doorstep of Arden House (S) (50917). \* 8.30 You've Been Framed! (R) (S) (9608). \*
9.00 News, Weather (890375). \*
9.15 ISBN Lethal Weapon II (Richard Donner 1989 US). Patsy Kensit as Mel Gibson's love Interest? Things can only get better -- and they do. Just. The weakest of the trio of Lethal Weapon

movies carries a plot about a South African drug syndicate somewhere in there among the

orug syndicate somewhere in there among the smash-bang-wallop (362559).

11.15 The South Bank Show. Sting profiled. See Preview, above (S) (916849). \*

12.15 Theatreland. Sheridan Morley presents the London theatre magazine, which Includes the RSC's Taming Of The Shrew and an interview with lead to the the street (9231).

Josie Lawrence (92931). 12.45 Sledge Hammer (91202). 1.15 Ngaio Marsh: Died in the Wool An Inspector

Alleyn mystery from 1978, with George Baker again impersonabing Ngaio Marsh's police officer. It's 1942, and rather than doing his bit, Alleyn is rather curiously tracking down a missing New Zealand sheep farmer's wife. That's his story, anyway (207806).

3.00 First Nightwalk (Jerrold Freedman 1989 US). Murder witness Lesley-Arme Down becomes the target of professional hit man Robert Urich. Goodness - is that the time? (S) (900486). \* 5.30 News (72573). To 6.00am.

OTE GOLD

7.10 Take 5 (S) (5694733). 7.40 The Magic School Bus (S) (7515337). 7.40 The Magic Scriool 80s (8) (731537). 8.10 Sonic the Hedgehog (7886714). 8.35 The Trap Door (4243172). 8.40 Slast Off (S) (5626789). 8.50 Biker Mice from Mars (R) (8507849).

6.15 Trans World Sport (R) (6322004).

Channel 4

9.15 Saved by the Bell (R) (86844 9.45 Dumb and Dumber (S) (8281022). 10.00 Insektors (5033882). 10.15 Sister Sister (S) (859795).

10.45 Wise Up (S) (858066).

11.15 NBA Raw. Focus on Salt Lake City, home to the the Utah Jazz basketball team (848849).
12.15 Mission Impossible (102559). \* 1,15 All at Sea (Charles Frend 1957 UK). The last of the Ealing comedies suffers in comparison with its illustrious predecessors. Alec Guinness plays the scion of a sea-faring family. He simply doesn't have sea legs, so takes over the running of a holiday pier instead (590085). \*

2.45 (2013) Very Important Person (Ken Annakin 1961 UK). A delicious cast – James Robertson Justice, Leslie Phillips, Stanley Baxter, Eric Syles, Richard Wattis - send up the prisoner-of-war camp movie genre (61036733). \*

4.35 The Pink Panther Show (5320820). 5.05 Blue Wilderness. Dolphins (8087287). \* 5.35 Hollyoaks (R) (S) (433917). \*

6.05 Babylon 5 (475356). \*

7.00 Triumph of the Nerds. See Preview (S) (3375). \* 8.00 Encounters: Outback Fighters. The story of itinerant troupes of tentboxers roving the small mining towns of the Australian Outback at the turn of the century - and of Michael Karatiana, who now carries on the tradition laid down by his

grandfather (S) (9795). \*

9.00 Deep Steep. Secret History repeat detailing the shocking experiments conducted on depressed and mentally ill people in British-run hospitals in Australia between 1963 and 1978 (R) (9559). \*

10.00 SIMM The Cowboys (Mark Rydell 1972 U.5). "One of the most topold extile drives sieze the invention."

of the most torpid cattle drives since the invention of motion pictures," reckoned Pauline Kael of this late John Wayne movie in which the Duke hires 11 boys to help him drive his cows across country. Pretty to look at, but the message – violent revenge is good – comes straight out of a Michael Winner picture (39916288). \*

12.25 Football Italia. Napoli v AC Mllan (5429009). 1.25 Jana-Aranya/The Middleman (Satyajit Ray 1975 India). A young graduate comes face to face with corruption when he starts work in a small business in a sabre set in modern Calcutta (84387776). To 3.50am.

### **ITV/Regions**

ANELIA As London except: 2.00pm A World of Wonder (3527). 2.30 Kick Off Livel (87306511). 5.35 Heistom (435375). 12.15am Film: Crazy Moon. (490912). 1.55am Hotel Babylon (3442009). 2.40am Shift (4034592). 3.40am Film: Blonde's Big Moment (2985399). 5.00-5.30am Film: Blonde's Big Moment (2985399). 5.00-5.30am Film: Blonde's Big Moment

THE THES/PORTSHIRE
As Landon except 12.25pm fine: Newsweek (37345111)
Norks: The Powers That Be (3750559), 2,00 Murder,
She Whole (3865530), 2,55 Film: Kim (89930172),
5,05 RoboCop (7372153), 12.15am fine: Highway to
Heaven (331573), Indis: Your Malch (331573), 1.15am
Film: Joroo ka Citulam (9431339), 4,00am Profile
(46552950), 4,15-5,30am Jobfinder (6381080).

As Landon except: 12.30pm Central Newsweek (3755714). 2.00 Good Advice (3527). 2.30 The Central Match - Live (54214627). 5.20 Shartmasters (3178443). 5.40 Our House (434646). 12.15am The War of the Worlds (331573). 4.35am Johfinder (8336738). 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye (1182202).

RIV
As London except 12.25pm West: Dogs with Oursbar (3734511). Wales: God, Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll (3734511). 2.00 Emmerdale (5045530), 2.50 West: West Match Plus (7508578). Wates: Soccer Sunday (7508578), 3.50 West: Getaways (7678527). Wales: House (7678527). 4.20 Films Agatha Christie's A Caribbean Mystery (59057849). 12.15am West: Films Stand Up Virgin Soldiers (490912), Wales: Films Crazy Moon (490912), 1.55am Hotel Babylon (3442009). 2.40am Shift (4034592). 3.40am Films Blondie's Big Moment (2985399). 5.00-5.30am Films y Business (37592).

MERDIAN
As London except: 12.30pm Seven Days (9477240).
2.00 The Making of Broken Arrow (3527), 2.30 The
Meridian Match - Live (80166068), 5.10 seeQuest DSV
(6412004), 12.15am Film: Crazy Moon (490912).
1.55am Hotel Babyton (3442009), 2.40am Shift.
(4034592), 3.40am Film: Bondle's Big Moment
(2985399), 5.00-5.30am Film: Bondle's Big Moment
(2985399).

WESTODWRY
As London except: 12.30pm Westcountry Update
(3755714), 2.00 Dags with Dunbar (3527), 2.30 Westcountry Match (7237356), 3.10 A Quick Run (8762733),
3.20 Pilire Robin and Martin (92957849), 5.15 P Quinn,
Medicine Woman (7378337), 12.15mm Filine Crazy Moon
(490912), 1.55mm Holid Bebylon (344209), 2.40mm
Shift (4034592), 3.40mm Filine Bondie's Big Montent
(2985399), 5.00-5.30mm Filiney Business (87592).

S4C
As C4 except: 6.15am Transworld Sport (6322004).
7.10 Take Five (5634733): 8.10 The Adventures of Sorici the Hedging (7886714). 10.15 Hollyosks (859795).
10.45 Sister Sister (858056). 1.15 Ningslov (791443).
2.15 Tooyn Tymor (182795). 3.15 Wise Up (128337).
3.45 Gulliver's Travels (310066). 5.30 Pobol y Cernido (547530). 7.55 Newyddion (391608). 8.00 Suf Y Fith (249117). 8.50 Sewarnog Hapus: Tath 0 Amgylch Byd Twm Moxy (751443). 9.50 Sath Ar Y Suf (52527).
10.10 Film: Diamond Skutts (508511). 11.45-1.30am Film: Bad Behaviour (349608).

### Radio

(37.6-99.8MHz FM) 7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 2.00 Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation 4.00 UK Top 40 7.00 Ministry of Sound 8.00 Radio Rock Show 10.00 Andy Kershaw 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 4.00-6.30am Clive Warren

### (88-90,2MFz FM)

7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Steve Wright's Sunday Love 5ongs 11.00 Wright's Sunday Love sorgs 11.00
Parkinson's Sunday Supplement
1.00 Desmond Carrington 3.00
Sanny Green 4.00 Let's Dance
4.30 Sing Something Simple 5.00
Pam Ayres 7.00 Hugh Scully 8.30
Sunday Half Hour 9.00 Alan Keith
10.00 This Passion of Stephen ndheim 12,05 Steve Madden 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester

Radio 3 90.2-92.4Mbz FM) 7.00am Sacred and Profane. With Paul Guinery. 8.55 Choice of Three.

9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning. 12.15 Music Matters.
1.00 News; Trading Places. (3/5).
1.25 The Sibellus Symphonies.
Michael Oliver introduces the opening concert from the Sibellus Symphony Weekend at the Barbican. See Choice, above.

3.00 Spirit of the Age.
4.00 Harewood House Concerts.
The Earl of Harewood Introduces a concert by the Chillingirlen Quartet. (2/3). 5.45 The Sunday Feature: Welsh National Company National Opera at 50.
6.30 Ravel, Sonatine; Valses nobles ef settimentales; Gasperd de la nuit, Gwendolyn Mok (piano).
7.30 The Sunday Mark (Piano).

7.30 The Sunday Play: The Dark
Tower by Louis MacNeice. 9.05 Choir Works 11.15 Toto la Momposma. Jo Shinner talks to be Mornposina, the queen of the traditional cumbia.

11.45-1.00am Record Review.

62.4-94.6Mily FM, 198Mily 198 6.00mm News Briefing. 6.10 Something Understood.

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.15 On Your Farm. 7.40 Sunday. Trevor Barnes presents religious news from home and abroad. 8.50 The Week's Good Cause. Anna Ford appeals on behalf of Contact the Elderly,

### Choice

Neeme Jarvi conducts the Gothenof four concerts: The Sibelius Symphonies (1.25pm R3). By contrast, in Relatively Speaking (9pm R4), Jo Brand's mother. cakes and monthlies on TV.

9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers. 9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Morning Service. 10.15 The Archers. Omnibus

edition.

11.15 Mediumwave.

11.45 Books & Company. Reading the internet. John Walsh, literary editor of the Independent, warily editor of the thosperdent, was turns the electronic pages of cyberspace. With Lynne Truss. (7/8). 12,15 Desert Island Discs. With

Viscount Rothermere.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World This Weekend. 1.00 The World This Years Id.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time.
2.30 The Classic Serial:
The Constant Nymph. By
Margaret Kennedy. (1/2).
3.30 Pick of the Week.

4.15 Anatysis. 5.00 News; Venom. Jellyfish. Few 5.00 News: Venom. Jellyfish. Few creatures are as misunderstood as these beautiful and mysterious marine organisms. (3/4).
5.30 Poetry Please!
5.50 Shipping Forecast.
5.55 Weather.

6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 African Harvest. (3/4). 6.30 In Business. (3/4). 7.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: Craddock and Co. (1/3). 7.30 Reading Aloud: Growing Up. The Liars' Club by Mary Karr.

(2/7). 8.00 (FM) The Natural History Programme. 8.00 (LW) Open University. 8.00 (LW) Open University.
8.30 (FM) Working History.(5/6).
9.00 (FM) Relatively Speaking.
(1/6) See Choice, above. 9.30 (FM) Costing the Earth. Mark Whittaker considers what man has made of the Durham Dales.

9.59 Weather. 10.00 News. 10.15 All In the Mind. Professor Anthony Clare discusses personal codes of morality with Baroness Warnock and discovers why psychologists have been given guidelines on how to deal with requests from the media.

burg Symphony Orchestra in the first Joyce, describes what it's like having a daughter (left) who goes on about

10.45 Breakaway. Anne Gregg pre-sents the latest holiday news. 11.15 In Committee. 11.45 Seeds of Faith. (1/2). 12.00 News.

12.00 News.
12.30 The Late Story: Miss Menon Did Not Believe in Magic
12.48 Shipping Forecast.
1.00 As World Service.
5.55-6.00am (FM) The Radio 4UK Theme. 5.55-6.00em (LW) Shipping Forecast.

Radio 5 163,90% MM)
6.05am Brief Lives 6.30 Srian
Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Sunday
with Mair 11.35 Special Assignment 12.00 Mkdday Edition 12.15
The Sig Byte 1.05 Sunday Sport
6.05 Jim and the Doc 7.00 News Extra 7.35 You Cannot Be Serious 8.35 Caught on the Web 9.05 US Masters Golf 12.05 Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morning Reports

Classic FM 1)00.0-101.9MRz FM) 6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Classic Romance 12.00 Celebrity Choice 1.00 Michael Mappin 3.00 Masterclass 4.00 Robert Booth
7.00 Classic Countdown Top 10
8.00 Classic FM Evening Concert
10.00 Howard's Week 12.00 Mel Cooper 4.00-6.00am Mark Griffiths.

(1215, 1197-1260kHz AW 185,8MHz PM) 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Graham Dene 2.00 Nicky Home Davies 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks **World Service** 

Virgin Radio

1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Development '96 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 News-desk 2.30 Short Story 2.45 On the Move 3.00 Newsday 3.30 UFO's: Fact or Fiction 4.00 World News 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 Jazz for the Asking 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsdesk 5.30 Europe Today 5.30-6.00am Off the Shelf: Miss Smille's Feeling for Snow.

### **Satellite**

SKY ONE
7.00 Undum (1092627). 11.30 Ghoul-lashed (68269). 12.00 The Hit Mix (56998). 1.00 Ster Trek (65646). 2.00 The World at War (36733). 3.00 Ster Trek (62085). 4.00 Wrestling (74820). 5.00 Around the World (2337). 5.00 Power Rangers (1578). 6.00 The Simpsons (1191). 7.00 Beverly Hills 90210 (86153). 8.00 Ster Trek (95801). 9.00 Love and Betrayal (35248). 11.00 Seinfeld (82849). 11.30 Duckman (31288). 12.00 60 Minutes (29592). 1.00 She-world of (29592). 1.00 She-wolf of London (65973). 2.00-6.00an

Hit Mix Long Play (9404216). SKY MOVIES 6.00am King Solomon's Mines (1950) (23004), 8.00 Kim (1950) (27085), 10.00 Beethoven's 2nd (1993) (71207), 13.00 The Mideauer (1973) Beethoven's 2nd (1993) (71207). 12.00 The Hideaways (1973) (17608). 2.00 A Million to One (1993) (35284). 4.00 Meteor Man (1993) (62678675). 5.45 Beethoven's 2nd (1993) (667356). 7.15 Robin Hood: Men in Tights (1993) (79375733). 9.00 Murder One (85743). 10.00 Jailtreakers (1994). (1240066). 11.20 The Movle Show (408511). 11.50 Betraval Show (408511). 11.50 Betrayal of the Dove (1992) (632337). 1.35 Blood in, Blood Out (1993) (71349170). 4.30-6.00am A Million to One (1993) (80047).

MOVIE CHANNEL 6.50 Terry on the Fence (1985) (5843820). 8.00 Rooke of the Year (1993) (25627), 10.00 Los in Alaska (1952) (79849), 12.00 wo Much Trouble (1994) (48578), 2.00 Romantic Under-taking (1995) (77849), 3.30 El News Features (5917), 4.00 An American Tail (1986) (7646). 6.00 Much Ado About Nothing (1993). (87882). 8.00 Speed (1994). (99627). 10.00 Striking Distance (1993) (347337). 11.45 kresistible Force (1993) (846462). 1.05 Dead of Winter (1987) (362486), 2.55 Much Ado About Nothing (1993) (202196), 4.35-6.00am 4D Spe-

cial Agents (1981) (6433824). SICH MOMES GOLD 12.00pm Against the Wind (1948) (61578). 2.00 Flying Leathernecks (1951) (81646). 4.00 The Philadelphia Story (1940) (1646), 6.00 Zelig (1983) (61882), 8.00 Young Frankenstein (1974), (73627), 10.00 Young-blood (1986) (278733), 11.55 A Hard Day's Night (1964) (578424). 1.25 The Face (1958)

### (817486). 3.10-3.45am The idle

7.00am Give Us A Clue 7.00am Give US A Club (1926882). 7.30 Going for Gold (9023578). 7.55 The Pink Parther (5544202). 8.00 Angels (9402714). 9.00 When the Boat Comes In (6032608). 10.00 Blake's Seven (1934801). 11.00 The Vortex Short (30644191). 11.10 Or Who and The Horns of 11.10 Or Who and The Horns of Nimon (96272191), 1.00 Film: Perry Mason (47615337), 2.50 Paul Daniels (2329207), 3.00 The Bill (71292608), 5.20 To the Manor Born (5467832), 6.00 The Two Ronnies (1897849), 7.00 Morecambe and Wise (4785337), 8.00 Poldark (53382608), 9.05 Flizabeth R (86362917), 11.00 Blub Poloark (53:382508), 9,05 Flizabeth R (80362917), 11,00 The Bob Monkhouse Show (1160462), 11,50 A Very Pecu-liar Practice (2459269), 12,55 Thin Air (2805776), 1,50-7,00am Shopping (49959931).

SKY SPORTS 7.00am Super League (85511). 9.00 Boxing (65269). 11.00 Roller Hockey (84882). 12.00 Goals on Sunday (2442-9). 1.00 Scottish Football (798998). 3.30 Super Sunday (3065707). 7.00 American Football (72761). 9.00 Super League 10.00 Football (381882). 1.00-3.00arn American Football (10950).

SICY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer Extra (5998207). 7.00am Soccer Extra (5998207). 10.30 Superbiles (4586801). 12.00 Rugby (2376838). 2.00 Superbiles (3404578). 3.30 Opposite Lock (8347085). 5.30 Squash (8335240). 7.00 Superbiles (3011172). 9.00 Snooker (8649462). 12.00 Powerboat World (2654196), 12.30-1.00am Windsurling (7686405).

LIVETV

9.00 Mind and Body. 9.30 Weigh to Go. 10.00 The Fashion Show. 10.30 Spanish Archer. 11.00 Showbiz. 12.00 Fate and Fortune. 12.30 The Why Files? 1.00 425. 2.00 Sport. 2.30 Chequered Flag. 3.00 Canary Wharf Onmibus. 4.30 The Pashion Show. 5.00 Weigh to Go. 5.30 Mind and Body. 6.00 Video Box. 6.30 Body. 6.00 Video Box. 6.30 Spanish Archer, 7.00 425, 8.00 Showbiz, 9.00 Fate and Fortune. 9.30 The Why Files? 10.00 Weird Night. 10.30 The Fashion Show. 11.00 Topless Darts, 11.04 Spanish Archer, 11.30 Stand Up. 12.00 The Sex Show. 12.30 Waird Night, 1.00 Home Shop-Weird Night. 1.00 Home Shop-ping. 1.30 Spanish Archer. 2.00-9.00am Night Hours

### **Pastimes**

### Chess William Hartston

Experienced prodigy watchers can tell a future grandmaster from a precocious, but fundamentally talentless chess brat. The future GM sits with head in hands and an expression of total absorption in the game - as though nothing less than a major earthquake would disturb their concentration.

Nigel Short and Judit Polgar both had that mature and concentrated look by the age of 11. So does Ruth Sheldon, 14, whn made a 13 Rfd1 Nb8 40 Rxa3 Rxa3 women's grandmaster norm 14 Racl Nc6 41 Qxa3 Qxh4 at last week's Vera Menchik 15 a3 Nd7 Memorial in Newcastle. The following game, while

unspectacular, shows all the 18 Be4 Nd8 right qualities: patience (the 19 b4 Nf6 quiet npening), positional 20 Bd3 Qd7 judgement (the space-gain- 21 Qb3 a4 ing 19.b4 and 23.d5), calm- 22 Qb1 Ne6 ness (29.axb4, without fear 23 d5 Ng5 of the black a-pawn), and 24 Nd2 e5 than taking immediately on 26 h4 Ngh7 53 g3 Nc5 a8). A highly polished game. 27 Ne4 Ne8 54 Rc7 1-0

5 Nbd2 Nbd732 Bf4 h5 6 h3 Bxf3 33 Nb5 Ra6 7 Nxf3 g6 34 Nd4 Oe7 8 Bf4 Bg7 35 b5 Ra8 9 63 0-0 36 Bf3 Nef6 10 Be2 ජ 37 Ra2 Nd7 11 0-0 b6 38 Bxa8 Rxa8 12 Bh2 h6 39 Ob4 Be5 42 Qa8+ Kg7 16 Qa4 a5 43 Qf3 Nc5 17 Bd3 Ra7 44 Ral Ne4 45 Ra2 Nc5 46 Ra7 Qf6 47 Nc6 Bxf4 48 Qxf4 Qxf4 49 exf4 Nd3 50 Nd8 Ngxf2 51 Nxf7 Kf6 ruthlessness (37.Ra2! rather 25 dxe6 Qxe6 52 Nxd6 Ng4

White: Ruth Sheldon

Black: Richard McMichael

Old Indian Defence

29 axb4 a3

30 Nc3 Nhf6

1 d4 Nf6 28 Be2 cxb4

4 Qb3 Qc8 31 Rd2 Ng4

2 c4 d6

3 Nf3 Bg4

### Perplexity

### Losswords:

Three more entries from our dysfunctional dictionary which automatically deletes from each definition, in the right order, the letters of the word defined. Then it closes the gaps and gives the length of word deleted. So "puzzle". defined as "poser nr quizzicai rebus", would appear as: oserorquicarbus (6)". But what are these?

setebratowor (5) nayaertandbrhtmally (11) stingpatoathmas (10)

Answers by 25 Apr tn: Pastimes, the *Independent*, 1 Canada Sq, Canary Wharf. London E145DL A Larousse Desk Reference Encyclopedia awaits the winner.

30 March answer: MADCOW+MADCOW = CJDBSE is 190327 + 190327 =380654. So COD= 320. Winner: LD Toulson.

### **Bridge** Alan Hiron

Love all; dealer South North **◆**A43 ♥K65

**♣**AJ10763 **4985 ♠**762 ♥QJ104 ♥A983 ♦A852 **♦93 ♦**KQ82

04

South **♦**KQJ10 772 **OKQJ1076 4**5

the bridge world. For a tribute to his skills, one could hardly do better than admire his defence to Four Spades on this deal. Just see if you would have got it right - st the table!

The bidding had started South and he rebid his suit after a club response. North, readubiously to Four Spades.

three rounds of hearts and de- did defence.

The recent death of Terence clarer ruffed. Next he led the Reese caused much sadness in king of diamonds. If Reese, as West, had woo this, it would have been all over with everything hreaking well.

Terence allowed the king of diamonds to hold! Another top diamood won hut, while West still retained the ace, with Ooe Diamond from East ruffed the third round and played a fourth heart. Note that: another heart! A

sonably eoough, oext tried cluh or trump instead would Two No-trumps but, after 8 have allowed declarer to ruff spade bid from South, raised out the ace of diamonds and draw the remaining trumps. The defence started with It was the climax to a spleonfli

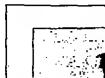
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### The big picture

Robocop Sat 10.05pm (TV

Peter Weller, with his redoubtably expressionless, though wonderfully sculpted lips and chin, was the perfect casting choice for the helmeted cyborg law enforcer in Robocop. Paul Verhoeven's 1987 sci-fi film basically steals the idea of Judge Dredd and swamps it in vicious media satire. Weller plays a cop murdered by an evil gang, then brought back to life as a machine to combat the forces of lawlessness that are rampant in the film's bleak vision of future capitalism. Verhoeven's primal, crude energy is perfect for the carbonish story.

### **Television preview**

RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND by Gerard Gilbert



The Gaby Roslin Show Sat 9pm C4 Infamous Addresses Sat 10.30pm C4 Triumph of the Nerds Sun 7pm C4 Culloden Sun 7.25pm BBC2 The South Bank Show Sun 11.15pm ITV

aby's looking uncharacteristically po-faced in the publicity shots for The Gaby Roslin Show (Sat C4), like a child pretending to be grown-up or a dimwir trying to look brainy. Not that Gaby is either childish or stupid. She is, though, famous for being blonde, for-. menty of The Big Breakfast, weeping openly, and for being so transparently nice that she makes all those other breakfast TV presenters seem metely cynical.

She's nur queen of hearts, and like dear Diana, she's having problems repositioning herself. The Real Holiday Show was an autocue reading job - but now she's been given a chat show, in an exercise hyped as reviving the chat show genre. Not that the chat show ever went away - it just went post-modern, with Letterman and Conan O'Brien in the States, and Joonthan Ross and Dame Edna over here. Whether it needs to be dragged back into the Parkinson era is debatable, but the first guests doo't auger well either way. Des O'Connor wouldn't get nut of bed for the ubiquitous Eddie Izzard or Kate Winslet (of Sense and Sensibility). Ike Turner is the only potentially interesting guest. Can Gaby handle it? Tune in and see.

By far the most interesting programme this week-eod is more than 30 years old. The enduring power of Culloden (Sun BBC2), Peter Watkins's 1964 pseudo documentary in which the 1746 Battle of Culloden is subjected to TV documentary techniques, underlines what a terrible loss to British televising was Warkins, who gave it all up after the BBC banned his similar treatment of a nuclear attack on Kent, The War Game. Culloden is being shown to mark the 250th anniversary of the battle in which Charles Edward Stuart was routed by the Hanoverians and assorted Protestant Scots (the line-up wasn't unlike a Celtic/ Rangers derby in some ways - except Celtic, unlike Bonnie Prince Charlie, don't have any French players). This innovative TV film is still strong mest

generation before the Vietnam War. Meanwhile, they've been pulling down the gym in Durblane, and Gloucester Council are considering demolishing 25 Cromwell Street. Plenty of other homes that are the sites of ontorious murders are now, however, re-inhabited. Infamous Addresses

(Sat C4) finds out what it's like to live in the building where Juhn Haigh dissolved bodies in acid, where George Smith drowned his wives, or where In Orton was bludgeoned to death by Kenneth Halliwell. John Christie, resident of 10 Rillington Place, is still on some company mailing lists apparently, depite the fact that Rillington Place met a bulldozer s quarter of a century ago.

One wouldn't mind living in Sting's rock star country mansion in Wiltshire. The South Bank Show (Sun FIV) manages a better snoop round this mellow-bricked Jacobean pile than a recent Hellol feature, and Melvyn (having a bad hair day) gets quite a good take nn this strangely Puck-ish man.

Can I suggest to the reader who wrote wondering about the contemporary meaning of the term today. It must have seemed even stronger to the "anorak" and "techno-nerd" to tune into Triumph of the Nerds (Sun C4), where all will be explained. This three-part series tells how young male techno-enthusiasts were the driving force behind the revolution that is putting personal computers into every home in the land. One such - Bill Gates - kicks off the series.



The big match US Masters Sat 8.05pm, Sun 9.05pm 8802

As the cashmere-sweatered contestants tee up for the final rounds of the 60th US Masters, in the verdant setting of Augusta National, there will be several within driving distance of the coveted Green Jacket. Since Augusta's greens, traditionally lightning-fast, are believed this year to be even faster, the advantage (above), last year's champion? According to the bookmakers, he's not even in the running - but last year he took the prize as a 50-1 outsider. Anything can happien:

### Saturday television and radio

ITV/London

### BBC1

7.25 News; Weather (1505503). 7.25 News; Weather (1505503).
7.30 Children's 8BC: Iznogoud. 7.40 Willy Fog. 8.10 The Raccoons. 8.35 The Addams Family.
9.00 Live and Kicking, Music from young soul trio 3T, Jas Mann of Baylon Zoo (S) (44281868).
12.12 Weather (6950077).

12.15 Grandstand. 12.20 Football Focus, 1.00 News. 1.05 Athletics: the Bupa International Road Races from Portsmouth, 1.55 Racing from Ascot: 2.00 Kestrel Novices Chase. 2.10 Touring Cars: highlights from the opening two rounds of the Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car Championship from Donington Park, 2.30 Racing from Ascot; 2.35 Ladbroke Handicap Hurdle, 2.45 Touring Cars. 3.05 Racing from Ascot: 3.10 Letheby & Christopher Long Distance Hurdle. 3.20 Women's Hockey: Great Britain v the Netherlands from Milton Keynes, 3.50 Football Half-Times, 4.00 Hockey, 4.40 Final Score (S) (47711936).

5.25 Regional News and Weather (1991077). 5.30 Stay Tooned! Tony Robinson looks at the work of animator Robert McKimson, the man behind Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck (S) (822313). \* 5.55 Big Break. 5nooker and general knowledge with

5.15 News, Weather (1045503), \*

guests Steve Davis (who's also on They Think It's All Over, later) and Lee Richardson (S) (825400). 6.25 The New Adventures of Superman. Three German soldiers placed in suspended animation during World War II wake up in Metropolis with a spot of world domination on their minds (S) (790752).

7,10 Confessions. Mysterious crop circles in Northern Ireland explained - and a man confesses to taking advantage when mistaken for a priest. Simon Mayo is the bloke doing all the talking (S) (834955). \* 7.50 The National Lottery Live. Gary Wilmot gets the

balls rolling (S) (241145). 8.05 Bugs 2/2. Concluding half of the yam about a plot to stop the launch of a vital satellite (5) (156400).
8.55 News and Sport; Weather (Followed by National

Lottery Update) (144918). \* 9.15 Avalanche (Paul Shapiro 1994 US). David Hasselholf swaps the sand for the snow and takes on an unaccustomed bad-guy role in this ho-hum adventure about a ruthless smuggler (Hasselhoff) setting off an avalanche which traps Michael Gross

and his bickering children in their cabin (422771). 10.45 Match of the Day. Southampton v Manchester United (S) (2016874).

11.50 They Think It's All Over. Steve Davis and Gaby Roslin are the guests (R) (S) (258619). 12.20 EBM The Legend of the Werewolf (Freddle Francis 1974 UK). That nice Or Finlay, David Rintoul, can be seen in a younger incarnation as a zoo worker, in 19th-century Paris, with behavioural problems each full moon. Peter Cushing investigates

1.50 Weather (5413530). To 1.55am. REGIONS. Wales: 3.05pm Rugby Union: Swalec Cup Semi-Final.

### BBC 2

6.00 Open University: Technology (7601042), 6,25 Maths (7793077), 6.50 Of Fish and People (8777619). 7.15 Classical Sculpture and the Enlightenment (6536706). 7.40 Light in Search of a Model (7636874). 8.05 Handel's Messiah (1476619). 8.30 Writers in the 1930s (8698145). 8.55 Why Oo Peacocks Have Elaborate Trains? (8504752). 9.20 Learning to Learn (7008936) 9.45 A Robot in the Parlour? (8468232), 10.10 Seeing Through Maths (4235145), 10.35 Wendepunkte (2437874), 11.00 Statistics (4402435). 11.25 A School for Our Times? (5566313). 11.50 Open Mind (6579023).

12.15 Shadow of the Hare (R) (S) (342961). \* 12.45 TIM Ofiver Twist (David Lean 1948 UK). The first and by far the best of three David Lean films showing today - a strikingly shot and edited version of the Charles Dickens novel, with Alec Guinness's master pickoocket Fagin so loathsome that he fell foul of Jewish groups in America. An edited version was released there in 1951. Also with Robert

Newton and Kay Walsh (91314435).

2.35 FIRST Blithe Spirit (David Lean 1945 UK), Rather arch version of Noel Coward's ectoplasmic wartime comedy with Rex Harrison, Constance Cummings and Kay Hammond trading the repartee. Harrison is a novelist who summons up his dead first wife (Hammond) In a seance, only for her move in with him and his second wife, Cummings (69467023).

4.10 A Passage to India (Oavid Lean 1984 UK). Muddled, over-rated version of EM Forster's culture-clash novel set in late 1920s India, with Lean seemingly more interested in the scenery than Forster's biting hatred of the Ral British. Judy Davis Is good, however, as the young, hysterical Englishwoman who might or might not have been raped by her Indian host (92527752). \*

6.50 What the Papers Say, With Peter Bradshaw of the London Evening Standard (S) (969619).
7.05 News and Sport; Weather (462936). \*
7.20 Correspondent. Following ex-tennis star lie Nastase's bld to be elected as mayor of his home town of Bucharest, Romania. Plus Martin Bell's final dispatch from Bosnia (S) (645503). \*

8.05 Golf - US Masters 1996. Steve Rider introduces live coverage from Georgia. See The Big Match, above (S) (79559226).

accused of murder after he killed a man in what he claims was self-defence. But Loeb was a white supremacist and his victim was black (559351). \* 11.50 EPM Hud (Martin Ritt 1963 U5). Rather timely showing, what with mad cow disease, of Ritt's generation-gap drama, with the conflict between stern father (Melvyn Douglas) and free-living son (Paul Newman) coming to a head over a government order to slaughter their diseased cattle (316428). \* 1.45 Later with Joots Holland. With Sinead O'Connor,

Dusty Springfield, Alison Moyet, and McAlmont

and Butler (R) (S) (9389849). To 2.50am.

6.00 GMTV 6.00 News; Weather. 6.10 Re:Win.d. 6.30 Bananas in Pyjamas. 6.40 Eat Your Words. 7.10 Barney and Friends. 7.40 Disney's Wake Up in the Wild Room. 8.55 Mighty Morphin Power Rangers

(6557508), 9.25 Teleganticmegavision. Guests this week include children's TV presenter Gareth Jones and John Pickard from 2Point4 Children (S) (861 3226).

10.25 Spatz (R) (6925416). 10.55 It's Not Just Saturday. Orops in on a Star Trek convention (S) (9050665). 11.30 The Chart Show (R) (S) (71936).

12.30 Speakeasy Emma Forbes presents the problem page for young people, with advice from Or Fintan Coyle. (R) (S) (58955). 1.00 News & Weather (16539936). \*

1.05 London Today The latest news. (Followed by LWT Weather) (16634435). \* 1.10 Champions League Special. Jim Rosenthal sets the scene for this Wednesday's semi-final, second-

leg matches featuring Ajax, Juventus, Panathinaikos and Nantes. (5906752). .45 Movies, Games and Videos (261042). 2.15 Carry on Screaming (Gerald Thomas 1966 UK). One of the best - and least screened entries with Harry H Corbett, Kenneth Williams, Fenella Fielding, Joan Sims and Jim Oale sending up Hammer horror films (718435).

3.45 Airwolf (R) (314348). 4.45 News; Sport; Weather (8386110). \* 5.05 London Tonight and Sport (8293706). \*

5,25 Batman (8100042). 5.45 Catchphrase. Roy Walker hosts. (S) (880706). 15 Barrymore. Provides a showcase for Bonnie

Langford and Alvin Stardust (S) (849619). 7.15 The Shane Richie Experience, The guest appearances are by Cobra and Hunter from

Gladiators, and pop group 4Mandu (5) (477684).

8.05 Stars in Their Eyes. People Impersonate Gilbert
O'Sullivan, Kate Bush and Billy Fury (Including Lottery Result) (S) (230416). 8.50 News; National Lottery Update; Weather

(Followed by LWT Weather) (194413). 9.05 The Governor. Two prisoners claim Barfield has a comupt warder. Janet McTeer investigates (S)

10.05 Robocop (Paul Verhoeven 1987 US). See 1cture, above (5) (2/0619) 11.50 Big Fight Special. Northern Ireland's Eamonn

Loughran defends his WBO welterweight title against Mexican Jose Luis Lopez, and Scotland's Paul Weir attempts to regain the light-flyweight bite from South Africa's "Baby" Jake Matlala (151333). 12.35 Pyjama Party (S) (4058646).

2,00 Funny Business (S) (8025443). 2.25 Tropical Heat (R) (S) (7242085). 3.15 El News Review (5102443). 4.05 God's Gift (Followed by Night Shift) (R)

5.05 Coach (5) (2976288). To 5.30am.

### Channel 4

6.10 Sesame Street (R) (6429961). 7.05 Little Dracula (R) (5791690). 7.35 Super Mario Brothers (R) (7631329).

8.00 Trans World Sport (51313). 9.00 The Morning Line A preview of today's top racing. (16348).

10.00 The Greatest. Barry John and Nick Faldo under consideration (R) (S) (14110). \* 10.30 NBA 24/7. LA Lakers v San Antonio Spurs (R) (73954).

11.00 Gazetta Football Italia (50400). 12.00 Sign On: Deaf Women's Lib (S) (28226). 12.30 The Great Maratha (56597). 1.00 ELLA Suez (Allan Dwan and Otto Brower 193B

US). Tyrone Power plays 19th-century French engineer Ferdinand de Lesseps - as bizarre as that seems - in this lavish Fox biopic co-staming Loretta Young (67662077). \* 2.45 Blood and Sand (Rouben Mamoulian

1941 US), Tyrone Power again, this time cast as a matador falling for seductress Rita Hayworth In this rehash of the 1922 Valentino classic (92677619).

5.05 Brookside Omnibus (R) (S) (3500139). \* 6.30 Right to Reply (S) (874). \* 7.00 Channel 4 News Summary and Weather (554961).

7.15 Everybody's Baby: The Rescue of Jessica McClure (Mel Oamski 1989 US). Oramatic reconstruction of the race to save the life of an 18month-old girl who fell down a well in Texas in 1987. Starring Beau Bridges (10077690). \*
9.00 The Gaby Roslin Show, See Preview, above (S)

(2771). 10.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (R) (S) (29955). \* 10.30 Infamous Addresses. See Preview, above (S)

(346503)11.05 Homicide - Life on the Street. An enisode from Barry Levinson's drama series about a team of Battimore homicide detectives (R) (S) (796139). \*

12.05 Murder in Ostankino Precinct. First Tuesday repeat (yes, that old) following Moscow Murder Squad detectives across the old Soviet Union in search of the killer of a woman found dead in a Moscow flat (R) (5457882). \*

1.05 The Stalker True-life crime, first shown in Errol Morris Interrotron Stories, about ex-soldier linomas Mollvane, who was soon fired from the postal service before embarking on a bloody spree

that left four dead (R) (S) (6433172). 1.25 Persistence of Memory. When a scientist enters an unstable computer simulation of his own creation, he finds himself at the heart of a murder investigation (R) (2179998).

1.55 Street of Shadows (Richard Vernon 1953 UK). Soho pinball saloon owner Cesar Romero has the police after him when his former mistress Simone Silva is stabbed to death. Victor Maddem. Kay Kendali and Edward Underdown pad out the cast (9451917). To 3.20am.

### ITV/Regions

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games, and
Videos (58955), 1.40 Warner Cartoon (44601%, 4),
2.00 Airwolf (3978058), 2.55 seaCuest 0SV
(8478232), 3.50 RoboCop (9143348), 5.20 Batman (1260232), 2.05am Furmy Business (2926207),
2.35am American (Budiators (4054356), 3.30am
Film: Alcha, Bobby and Rose (90511), 5.005.30am Warned Dead or Alive (38462),

TYME TEES/YORKSHIRE TYNE TES/YORKSHIRE
As Landon except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (589551, 1.40 Cartoon (94512874), 1.55 Film: Hannibal Brooks (96491085), 5.20 Betman (7260232), 12.35am Funny Business (5800288), 1.05am Pyjama Party (1974578), 2.35am War of the Words (4054356), 3.30am Customs Classified (5871288), 4.10am Coach (40463337), 4.35am Cue the Music (9660733), 5.25-5.30am Sound Bites (7170511).

10.25

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CENTRAL
As London except: 12.30pm Heartland (58955). 1.40
Movies, Games and Videos (68230868). 2.10 Cartoon (34545482). 2.25 RoboCop (5181145). 3.20
Ainvoit (7890348). 4.15 Body Heal (789023). 5.10
Central Match - Goals Extra (1968400). 5.20 Batman (1260232). 4.05am Jobfinder (83819998).
4.10am God's Gitt (5802578). 5.00am Jobfinder
(3666998). 5.20-5.30am Astan Eye (1115530).

AS London except: 12.30pm The Munsters Today (58955). 1.10 West: House (5906752). 1.40 Wates: Roadrunner (68230868). 1.45 West: Champon's League Special (261042). 2.10 Wates: Cartoon Time (73786690). 2.15 Movies, Garnes and Video (253023). 2.45 Airwolf (212936). 3.45 RobeCop (3143-8), 5.20 Batman (1260232). 2.05am Furmy Business (2926207). 2.35am American Gladiators (4054356). 3.30am Film: Aldra, Bobby and Rose (90511). S.00-5.30am Wanted Deed or Airwe (88462).

MCRIDIAN
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (58955). 1.40 Warner Cartoon (94512874). 1.55 Father Dowling Mysteries (6675110). 2.55 Ar. wolf (8478232). 3.50 RoboCop (9143348). 5.20 Batman (1260232). 2.05am Filmry Business: (2926207). 2.35am Arreican Gladiators (4054356). 3.30am Film: Aloha, Bobby and Rose (90511). 5.00-5.30am Freescreen (88462).

WESTCOURTRY
As Landon excepts 12.30 pm Movies, Games and Vides 5 (58955). 1.40 The Munsters Today (68313145), 2.05 Bugs Burny Special (41858435). 2.35 A World of Worder (6180856). 2.55 Knight Rider (8478232). 3.50 Almost (9143348). 5.20 Batman (1260232). 2.05em Flumry Business (2926207). 2.35am American Gladiators (4054356). 3.30 em Film: Aloha, Bobby and Rose (90511). 5.00-5.30 em Wanted Dead or Alive (83462).

\$40
As C4 except: 8.00ami Transworld Sport (513131.10.30 NBA (73954). 11.00 The Averagers (50400). 12.00 Sign Ore Deaf Women's Lib (28226). 12.30 The Pink Partitler Show (3786684). 12.55 Tertytoons (67292503). 1.10 Rygbi: Oxpan Swelet: 1996. Lanelly V Portypridd (73838771). 3.15 Film: All Creatures Great and Small (31986752). 4.55 Terrytoons (4007690). 5.05 Brookside (3500139). 6.30 Hollycals (674). 7.00 Newyddion Nos Sadwm (554961). 7.15 Halen Yn Y Gwaed (836145). 8.15 Het Straeon (533333). 8.45 Ollyn Ddoe: Coad Y Bleiddiau (983874). 9.15 The Sandman (915634). 9.30 The World of Lee Evans (52961). 10.00 The Gaby Rostin Talk Show (3399400). 11.05 Undercover Britain: Shabby Treatment (649787). 11.35-12.10am Infamous Addresses (245145).

### Radio

### Radio 1

(97 6-99.8MHz FM) 7.00am kevin Greening 10.00
Dave Pearce 12.30 Danny Baker 2.30 Jo Whiley 5.00 John Peel 7.00 Rampling 9.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 12.00 Radio 1 Sound City 4.00-7.00 am Charlie Jordan

### Radio 2

128-90 2MHz FMD 6.00am Mo Outta 8.05 Srian Matthew 10.00 Steve Wright 1.00 Laughter USA 1.30 The News Huddlines 2.00 Judi Spiers 4.00 Nick Barraclough 5.00 A Hard Habil to Break: 30 Years of Chicago 6.00 Randy Crawford in Concert 7.00 The Story behind.. Cabaret 7.30 Cabaret. See Choice, above. 10.00 Sheridan Morley 12.05 Charles Nove 4.00n Mo Outta

### Radio 3

(90.2-92 4MHz fM) 7.00am Record Review, With Anthony Surton. 9.00 auilding a Library. Edward Seckerson compares available releases of Barber's Knowville:

Summer of 1915.
10.15 Record Release. Bartok:
Piano Concerto No 1. Stravinsky: Suites (or small orchestra Nos 1 and 2. Webern: Six Pieces, Op 6 Serg. Three Fragments from "Wozzeck". Walton: Symphony No 2. 12.00 Private Passions. Michael Berkeley talks 10 Jilly Cooper. 1.00 News; Vintage Years. (1/6). 3.00 The Music Machine

Concert Orchestra. Eduard Kunneke: Concerto Grosso for jazz band and orchestra 10ance Suite). Poulenc: March es and an Intermezzo; Piano

Cancerto. 5.00 Jazz Record Requests, 5.45 Music Matters. 6.30 Live from the Met: Andrea Chenier. The French Revolution is the setting for Umberto Giordano's opera of 1896, in which Andrea Chenler is condemned to death for being a poet and tries to save himsel and his lover, the aristocraf Maddalena, Cast Includes Lu-ciano Pavarotti, tenor (Andrea Chenieri, Aprile Milo, soprano (Maddalena di Coigny), Juai Pons, baritone (Carlo Geraro), Rosalind Elias, mezzo (Contes sa di Coigny), Wendy White, mezzo (Bersi), Michel

Musical reminiscing, when the career of Menuhin: Master Musician (6pm Classic FM). (7.30pm R2), staming Steven Berkoff (left) as

"Incroyable") and Kim Jo son, barttone (Roucher), Chorus and Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera/James Levine. Act 1. (7.00-7.25 Who Was Umberto Giordano? Gra-ham Fawcett tells the story of the little-known composer.) Art 2. 18.00-8.20 The Met Opera Quiz. With Martin Bemheimer, Lofti Mansoun and William Weaver.) Act 3, 19.00-9.20 In-terval. Terence McNally talks to conductor James Levine.)

9.45 Studio 3: Starboy. 10.30 Periman and Paganini. Itzhak Periman plays Niccolo Paganini's Caprices for solo

10.45 Impressions, 8nan Morton introduces a specially recorded session by Pliff - Alan Tomlinson latto and tenor trom-bones), John Edwards (double bass) and German tuba player

Pinguin Moschner. 12.30 Piano Man. Alun Morgan remembers the 1950s output of Jazz planist Earl Hines. 1.00-3.00am Russian Orthodox Easter Vigil. 5.55-7.00am Open University.

Radio 4 (92.4-94 高版 用。1988版 即 6.00am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today 6.50 Prayer for the Oay. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 Today. 8.58 Weather. 9.00 News. 9,05 Sport on 4.

9.30 Breakaway. 10.00 News; Loose Ends. 11.00 News; Agenda. 11.30 Asia File. In the week be-(ore Bill Clinton visits Japan, Julian Pettifer reports from the Japanese island of Okinawa. home of the biggest US mili-tary base in Asia. (4:6). 12.00 Money Box. 12.25 The News Quiz.

### Choice

Humphiey Burton presents the first of 20 programmes exploring And a new recording of Cabaret

12.55 Weather. 1.00 News. 1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby's guests are Kamlesh Bahl, chairwoman of the Equal Opportunities Commission; the Rt Hon Tony Benn MP; the Rt Hon Norman Lamont MP and Hon Norman Lamont MP and Liz Lymre MP.

1.55 Shipping Forecast.

2.00 News; Any Answers?

2.30 Saturday Playhouse: The Making of Napoleon. Mike Walker's drama tells the story of how 15-year-old Kevin Brownlow undertook to find and restore Abel Cannor for

and restore Abel Gance's lost 1927 film masterpiece, Napoleon.
4.00 News; Working History.
4.30 Science Now. 5.00 File on 4. . 5.40 Letters from Round About. Ethicpia, (6/6).

5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.25 Mammon. As the dust settles on the Scott Report, the Mammon Corporation markets its new improved non-lethal range Grace and Jonathan Aris. (2/3).

6.50 Utopia and Other Destina-tions. Michael O'Donnell talks to the film director Peter vision of Utopia, (4/ô). 7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature. 7.50 Saturday Night Theatre: Body of Glass. Adapted by Michelene Wandor from the futuristic novel by Marge Piercy. 9.20 Music in Mind.

9.59 Weather. 10.00 News. 10.15 The Travellers' Souk. 10.45 The Champions. Subbutteo. Haydin Price meets 13-year-old Ashley Williams, who changed the face of Subbuteo by convincing Viaddington's to include black players in their game. (2/6).

9.50 Ten to Ten.

Baan Kay.

#### 11.30 Dead Man's Ransom by Ellis Peters. More dark news for Brother Cadtael. 12/5). 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Story: Fred by

Mary Jones. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.50 Bells on Sunday. 5.55-6.00am (FM) The Radio 4UK Theme. 5.55-6.00am (LW) Shipping

### Radio 5

Forecast

(693, 909Mt) WWI 6.05am Oirty Tackle 6.30 Srian Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Weekend Kershaw and Whittaker 11.05 Top Gear 11.35 Chine
Desk 12.00 Midday Edition
12.15 Sportscall 1.05 Sport on
Five 6.06 Sα-O-Six 6.55 Saturday
Superleague 8.05 The Treatment
9.05 Clear the Air 9.35 Oallyn on Saturday 10.35 Asian Perspectiv 11.00 Night Extra 12.05 Night Talk 2.00 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morning Reports

#### Classic FM (100.0-101.5kHz FM)

6.00am Sarah Lucas, 9.00 Classic Countdown, 12.00 Classic Garden-ing Forum, From the Brushford Wi, nerset, 1.00 Michael Map pin.3.00 Nick Bailey. 5.00 Menuhin: Master Musician, See Menunin: Master Musician, See Choice, above. 7.00 The World Opera Season, Rossini: The Barber of Seville. From the Teatro Commu-nale, Bologna. With Cecilia Bartoli, Leo Nucci, William Matteuzzi, Conductor Giuseppe Patane. 10.00 Sn of the Best with Quertin Howard. 12.00 Mel Cooper. 4.00 Classic Travel Guide.5.00-6.00am Michael

Virgin Radio 11215, 1197-1260e9 NW 105,8856 FM 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 8.00 Russ & Jono's Greatest Hits 10.00 Richard Skinner 2.00 Mark

Howard Pearce

Forrest (including Virgin Crunchle Album Chart) 6.00 Mitch Johnson

10.00 Robin Banks 2.00-6.00am

World Service (1964) Ch 1.00am Newsdesk 1.30 Letter from America 1.45 8ntain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Music Review 4.00 World News 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 Fourth Estate 4.45 Write On 4.55 Pop Short 5.00 Newsdesk

30 Short Story 5.45-6.00am

### Satellite

7.00am Undun (1025955). 11.30 Ghoul-lashed (90481). 12.00 Wresting (88110), 1.00 The Hit Mix (77058), 2.00 The Adventures of Brisco County Junior (48145), 3.00 One West Warluki (36987), 4.00 Kung Fu (86232), 5.00 Mysterious Island (8597), 6.00 Wrestling (84394), 7.00 Sliders (25665), 8.00 Unsolved Mysteries (34313), 9.00 Cops I (82416), 9.30 Cops II (96139), 10.00 Sland and Deliver (45961), 10.30 Revelations (58481), 11.00 Fin. Mona Show (87961), 11.30 For. The Movie Show 1879611. 11.30 For-

#### ever Knight (9-1139). 12.30 WKRP in Cincinnati (14608). 1.00 Saturday Night Live (87714). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix Long Play (\$109004). SKY MOYIES

6.00am The Three Faces of Eve (1957) (354/6), 8.00 Marity Joe Young (1949) (66597), 10.00 Nor ma Rae (1979) (83619), 12.00 The Mask (1994) (52348), 2.00 Give Me a 8reak | 1993) (81619), 3.30 Gypsy | 1993) (280985). 6.00 3.30 Gypsy (1993) A young boy free Willy (1993). A young boy forms a mendship with a Killer whale. Starring Jason James Richter (28752), 8.00 The Mask (1994). (2873.), 8.00 The wask [1954). (30597). An unassuming bank clerk is magically transformed into wise-cracking super hero. Slaming Jim Carrey 10.00 Ski School 2 (1994) (43416), 11.30 Indecent Behavior (1993) (916329). 1.15 Under In estigation (1993) (718288), 2.55 A Part of the Family (1993) (4561462). 4,25-6,00am Give Me Break | 19931 (317022),

MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Man Without a Star | 1955) (3305a), 8.00 Orbit the Astrodog (64139). 10,00 High Rise Donkey (1980) (83752). 11,00 The Mudiark (1950) (59435). 1,00 My Girl 2 (1994) (51619). 3,00 Man Without 1994 (31619), 3,00 Man Without The Unforgettable Encounter (1994) (86077). 6,30 Ace Ventura; Pet De-tective (1994) (16874). 8,00 My Girl 2 (1994) (38139). 10,00 Sleep with Me (1994) (41058), 11.30 Menace II Society (1993) (102684), 1.10 Shattered Trust (1993) (726207). 2.45 With Harmful Intent (1993) 1748-1241, 4.20-6.00am Orbit the

Astrodog (529207). SXY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm Doctor Dolittle (1967) (465684), 6,30 What's Up, Tiger Lily? (1966) (17892), 8,00 Two-

minute Warning (1976) (12139). 10.00 Ounkirk (1958). (65406746).

(783795), 2.00-4.10am The Sea

7.30 Going for Gold (9129706). 7.55 The Sullivans Omnibus (81477329). 10.00 Bergerac (1047329), 11.00 Classic Sport (1954665), 12.00 Neighbours Omnibus (25686665). 2.15 EastEnders Omnibus (46285481). 5.00 Till Death Us Do Part (5721232), 5.35 Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin (9772139), 6.15 Sykes (9986023). 6.50 ft Am't Half Hot, Mum (2906431). 7.25 The Upchat Connection (26863481, 7.55 8read (7236435), 8.30 Colditz (45456706), 9,35 Tenko (67140526), 10,40 Danger UXB (46417874), 11,48 Film, Hallows

7.00am Give Us A Clue (1959110).

(9319503). 1.35 Public Eye (3525085). 2.30-3.30am Shopping at Night (961008S). SKY SPORTS

7.00am World Sport Special (35139). 7.30 Wrestling (92042). 8.30 Racing News (45042). 9.00 Super League (97481). 11.00 End Zone (23394). 12.00 Sports Saturday (73428), 2.00 Rugby Union (90482232), 4.15 Sports Saturday (4367400), 5.30 Super League 1436/400/. 5.30 Super League (548481). 8.00 Boxing (634232). 10.30 Rugby Union (21394). 12.30 Super League (87849). 2.30-4.30am Boxing (22172).

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer AM (5691139). 11.00 Australian Rules Football (9794400). 1.00 Golf (1239139). 2.00 Saturday Ringside (9289619). 4.00 Superbikes (7828481). 5.00 Bowls (336S333), 7.00 Motorsport (3044400), 9.00 Snooker (8745690). 12.00-1.00am Bushido (4238424).

6.30am Home Shopping, 7.00 Fate and Fortune, 7.30 The Why Files? a.00 425, 9.00 Mind and Body. 9.30 Weigh to Go. 10.00 The Fashion Show. 10.30 Spanish Archer, 11.00 Showbiz Live. 12.00 Canary Wharf Omnibus. 1,30 The Fashion Show. 2.00 War. 3.00 Sport. 5.00 Weigh to Go. 5.30 The Fashion Show. 6.00 Video Box. 6.30 Spanish Archer. 7.00 425. 8.00 Snowbiz. 9.00 Fale and Fortune. 9.30 The Why Files? 10.00 Weird Night 10.30 The Fash-ion Show. 11.00 Topless Darts. 11.04 Spanish Archer. 11.30 Stand Up. 12.00 The Sex Show, 12.30 Weird Night 1.00 Home Shopping, 1.30 Spanish Archer, 2.00 Fish Tank, 3.00 Showbiz, 4.00 Fale

and Fortune. 4.30 The Why Files? 5.00 Video Box. 5.30-6,00am The

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Nic Cicutti looks at the implications for savers and borrowers of the building society bonanza

# The death of the building society

Fifteen months ago. Peter Jenk-ins had a brainwave. A financial adviser, he already had a savings account with Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, then being taken over by Lloyds Bank. His mortgage was with the Halifax.

Then, news broke of Halifax's plan to merge with Leeds Permanent and float on the Stock Exchange, giving each of its memhers free shares worth about £1,000 each. "Well, it was too good to miss, wasn' #1?" he explained.

"I suddenly thought, if Halifax is doing it, all the others are bound to sooner or later. So I looked up a list of the top 15 huilding societies and stuck £100 into each one."

He estimates his hrainwave will net him about £4,000 in cash and free shares by the time each of the societies planning to de-mutualise do so by the end of next year, a return of more than 250 per cent.

Mr Jenkins, is a very happy man:
"In a choice between hundreds of pounds today and a few quid off your mortgage every month, which one do you go for?"

Millions of others who in the past two years have been offered a share in the planned £18bn stockmarket flotation of nearly all Britain's mutual huilding societies have resolved the dilemma in a similar

To vote against the de-mutualisation of their society, be it the Halifax, Woolwich, Alliance & Leicester, or Northern Rock, could cost them free shares worth up to £1,000 each. Faced with that choice, there has been overwhelming support for ending the mulual status of huild-

ing societies. Last Thursday, it was announced that a 96.2 per cent of National & Provincial savers had voted for a £1.35hn takeover hid hy Abbey National. But it is more than a few free shares that are at stake. The decision by virtually every top-10 building society to float or collapse into the arms of a predator could bring to an end one of the longestrunning experiments in the closest thing we have to the stakeholder company. The demise of the "moveas the dominant player in the mortgage and savings market brings to an end a 220-year history of mutual aid and support.

Building societies, together with other mutually-owned organisations, were forged out of the Industrial Revolution in the late 18th century. Their aim was to huild up funds to huy land and huild homes

for their members. Initially with only 20 or 30 members, predominantly artisans, the societies usually drew lots to allocate the housing. When a home for every member had been huilt, the society would

By the mid-19th century, this changed as societies started to lending money to huy property. financed out of savings on which interest was paid. The explosive growth of a industrial working class meant that by the turn of the century, there

were more than 1,700 societies. Barely a year ago, after decades of mergers between smaller societies, the 80 still remaining controlled more than 70 per cent of mortgage lending. By next summer.

'Since it became the first to convert. the Abbey National has remained a building society in the public's

their share will have fallen to less than 30 per cent,

perception'

The demise of such a powerful movement seemed barely possible a short while ago. That it could have happened is the result a combination of factors, the changing char-acter of the financial industry the

chief reason among them.
Peter Davis, chief executive at Prudential, the UK's largest insurer, explained: "There is a growing lendency towards convergence, where the hanks, building societies and life companies are coming together. In the next five years, I think we will see the emergence of six or seven major retail consumer financial

This tendency for convergence is forcing many of the larger huilding cieties to opt for rapid expansion. By offering not just mortgages and savings accounts, but an array of financial services they hope to survive the intensifying competition in the industry.

But there is another reason. Despite the proclaimed henefits of of democratic welfarism, the majority of building societies had long lost sight of the ideal.

society annual meeting, the only forum through which members could express their views, witt tell a similar story - endless gripes aimed at an impassive board at the top table, while weak coffee and Garibaldi hiscuits are served to a small band of

In contrast, the would-be banks claim, sharcholder democracy demands you are the hest and most competitive, because in a free market the only way to remain in husiness is to keep your customers happy. If shareholders don't like the way their husiness is run, they can demand change, if they don't like the way their bank is run, they can close

their accounts and sell their shares. Nor do we notice when things change. Peter White, chief executive at Alliance & Leicester, one of the de-mutualising societies argued:
"The debate about mutuality is a red herring. Since the Abbey National became the first to convert it has

The irony, as the consumer mag-azine Which? points out, is that despite the boredom factor, huilding societies have delivered cheaper mortgages and higher savings rates

A £10,000 investment in an average huilding society account would have delivered £380 more after five years than with a bank deposit account. Smaller societies have tended to be even more competitive, adding an average of £200 more to that investment. Mortgages at Nationwide are 0.5 per cent cheaper than at Abbey National.

Despite the rearguard battle by Nationwide, Bradford & Bingley and others, including the belated handing back of hundreds of millions of pounds in profits to their members, the battle over mutuality is largely lost. Norwich Union's recent announcement that it too is considering a flotation, marks the first breach in the ranks of mutual insurers. Small societies, operating on the margins, among a loyal local following, may still survive. But the proud behemoths of the past will soon be no more.

Anyone forced to sit through a mainly elderly democrats.

remained a huilding society in the public's perception."

than banks.

Peter Jenkins will miss them: "I do feel sorry for building societics. In a lot of ways, I actually helieve in the ideal of mutual support they stand for ... a softer, gentler type of society and all that. But if you are mutuality as one of the last bastions offered the chance to make a hit of money, how can you turn it down?"

Going, going, gone? Where building societies stand

GRAYS BUILDING

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT

Abbey National - the marriny and the daddy of them all. The first to float in 1989, giving each of its five million members 100 free shares worth £130. Shares were worth £5.61 yesterday, down from a peak of £6.61. There are now 2.4 million shareholders, less than half the original number.

#### PLANNING FOR FLOAT OR **TAKEOVER**

Hallfax - Britain's biggest society, with about 10 million members, including 1.9 million borrowers. Merged with Leeds-Permanent tast year. Valued at £10bn. Plans to float in the summer of 1997. Members will receive an estimated £500 worth of shares, plus a further amount based on savings belances. Along with other societies planning to de-mutuelise, it has not cut its standard mortgage rate below 7.25 per cent. Cynics say it's because future shareholders wouldn't like a cut in profits.

**Woolwich** - the third-largest society, with about 3.5 million members, including 600,000 borrowers. Estimated to be worth up to £3bn. Rocked by resignation of its chief executive, Peter Robinson, over alleged financial irregularities. Plans to put flotation proposals to members in April, with de-mutualisation in late summer 1997. Shares distribution "will be similar" to Halifax.

Alliance & Leicester - fourth-largest. Valued at about £2.5bn. About three million members, luding 500,000 borrowers, who may be in for about £800 to £1,000 of free shares. The society is one of the most diversified - since 1990 has owned Girobank, a UK clearing bank operating through the Post Office. A&L aims to beat Woolwich to the draw on flotation date.

National & Provincial - seventh-largest, its 1.4 million members voted on Thursday for a £1.35bn takeover by Abbey National. In August,

borrowers will get cash or shares worth £500. Savers will get £750, plus seven per cent of savings balances up to a £50,000 maximum.

SOCIETY

Northern Rock - a relative minnow, with about a million members, including 250,000 borrowers. Strong regional player in North-east. Flotation a defensive move: intends to stick to niche mortgage and savings market. Valued at £1bn, its members will receive shares worth up to £1,000 each. Vote in April, flotation in October.

Bristoi & West - ninth-largest: 1.2 million savers and 200,000 borrowers. Analysts value it at £600-£800m; possible pay-out of about £750 per member if it accepts bid by Bank of Ireland.

#### THE REFUSENIKS (SO FAR)

Nationwide - the second-largest, with seven million members including 1.2 million borrowers.

Might be worth £7bn if floated but firmly opposed to idea. It is giving £200m a year to members, in the form of cheaper mortgages and better savings rates Says this is a benefit of staying mutual. With the Yorkshire society, it is the most competitive highstreet lender, with a variable rate of 6.74 per cent.

Bradford & Bingley - ranked fifth: 1.4 million savers and 600,000 borrowers. Could be worth £2-£3bn if floated. Well run, it insists on giving only Independent financial advice to clients. Most vocal proponent of mutuality, gives its members "loyalty" bonuses worth £50m a year. Offers highly competitive savings rates and a mortgage rate of 6.99 per cent.

Britannia - sixth-largest: about 1.2 million savers and 250,000 borrowers. Unlike other societies, its £35m annual loyalty package, announced in February, involves cash hand-outs worth up to £500 a member per year. However, a saver with £2,000 in a savings account would receive just £6.25. Borrowers who remain with the society for more than five years receive a cut in thair variabla mortgage.

Yorkshire - aggressively pro-mutual, with its own £20m annual give-back package to 800,000 savers and 150,000 borrowers including a 6.74 per cent mortgage rate, equal to Nationwide's. Ranked 10th; valued at £800m.

Other medium-ranked societies to have spoken in favour of mutual status include: The Skipton, which acquired fame when John Major praised it in the Commons for offering free unemployment Insurance; the Coventry, which announced a £20m annual package of cheaper mortgages and higher savings rates last month, and the Portman, led by Building Societies Association chairman Ken Culley.

#### IN PLAY

Birmingham Midshires - Not large (some 700,000 savers and 100,000 borrowers), unlike the ambition of its chief executive, Mike Jackson. (He is tipped as possible replacement for Peter Robinson at Woolwich.) Under him, it has competed aggressively, building a £7bn mortgage book. Valued it at £450m. Ripe for takeover or merger.

Chelsea - Ranked 16th, with 50,000 borrowers and 200,000 savers. Well-run society. Often compared to Cheltenham & Gloucester, Itself taken over by Lloyds Bank last year. Has in the past strongly backed mutuality, but observers note recent silence from its Cheltenham headquarters.

Other societies tipped Include West Bromwich, enmired in a damaging war with regulators over mortgages granted to many elderly people. The money was invested to provide an income and repay the loan. But the home income schemes went belly-up, leaving borrowers thousands of pounds in debt. Ripe for takeover by a mutual.

# Jo Brand's wee

I had never believed in the concept of jet lag, until it hit me squarely in every hit of my body after arriving in Sydney this week. I have now walked round like a zombie for several days, getting words wrong and falling asleep at the most unusual times. Well, I assume it's jet lag. It may have something to do with the aircraft staff spraying the entire plane with insecticide before we were allowed off. What a bizarre thing to do, and something everyone I know who has been to Australia has failed to mention. At least they didn't give us all a bell and instruct us to wander round shouting, "Unclean!" I was also shvised that on a long flight, it is very important to remove shoes as feet and ankles swell. Sure enough, after 22 hours, my ankles and feet looked huge. No change there then.

Sydney has reassuringly named areas such as Paddington and King's Cross. Despite the fact I am on the other side of the world, the climate is also reminiscent of good old Blighty as well, with rain and stiff breezes. In this luge island paradise, however, I had not expected to come across some of the more unacceptable aspects of England. Jeff, with whom I am louring, went off for a walk on the day of our arrival and was told in no necertain terms by two tramps to "Foff." Sweet, isn't it?

Morning television in Australia is similar to ours in Britain, although



there are some differences. Every few minutes over here, the viewer is transported away from the presenter to someone in a hideous leotard who tries to sell them a painful-looking implement designed to flatten the tummy. Failing the appearance of Ms Hideous Leotard, the viewer is presented with a stressed-looking housewife who has just lost 12 stone in an hour at somewhere called Gloria's. This morning we were hiessed with a real treat, a contraption called a "Treadmill", on which you can stroll for hours in the comfort of your own home. "Treadmill" struck me as a particularly appropriate name for a pointless piece of metal for women to add to their everexpanding armoury of keep-fit objects, as they wheeze ever onwards in the battle to keep in shape.

am off to Tasmania this weekend, to visit a friend of mine who, having been a frustrated and bored anaesthetist in London, is now a GP there. Tasmania has the same sort of reputation in Australia as the Isle of Man has in Britain. Homosexuality is a no-no. and its existence appears to be monitored by various Neighbourhood Watch-type groups. One assumes that, like the rest of Australia, Tasmania is anti-monarchy. Well, any opportunity to get rid of another old queen.

I heard the best excuse ever from a telephone operator today, about why I could not get through to my friend in Tasmania. After the engaged signal



persisted for two hours, I inquired as to whether the line was out of order, to be told, "Well, there's been a lot of rain lately." Don't tell British

The Austratian government, which has recently transformed from Labour to a Liberal/Conservative coalition, seems to have thrown up a prime minister to rival John Major in the personality stakes. About five people I spoke to here couldn't actually remember his name. (John Howard, I think.) It seems this new



drug that increases the appetite. Telecom, they'll want to use it, too.



Meanwhile, in Victoria, the main man, Paul Kennet, who has the reputation of being a cross between Margaret Thatcher and Saddam Hussein, has gone a bit bonkers and suggested legalising cannabis. Could

America) the civil service.

No one has said "G'day" to me yet. No one has called me "cobber". I've heard not one mention of "Bruce" or "Sheila". Neither have I heen congratulated with a "good on yer" or spotted a single person in a hat with corks swinging off it. Nobody has sung "Waltzing Matilda" or used the word "Abo", let alone showed any signs of dating or, indeed, copulating with a woolly animal. Nobody has shown any signs of moralising in the hanal and predictable fashion of Neighbours and there certainly are not any Les Pattersons around, dribbling down

their clothes. (Apart from me with my

planning to downsize (as they say in

jet lag, of course.) Having said that, neither myself nor Jeff nor our tour manager has anything with a Union Jack on it. None of us has been heard bemoaning the fact that we can't get a decent cup of lea. We haven't gone out without any sun cream on and turned into lobsters. We haven't shouted very loudly at anyone or insisted on "proper" milk. We haven't sung any football songs, peed in the street, demanded chips or worn socks with sandals. Where do these stereotypes come from? I think it's probably just one person in each country who is responsible. In the coming weeks, I may change my mind and, hopefully, my mind will change back to its old self and I will cease to be in a walking coma in the jet lag department. I feel a coma coming on now. G'day cobbers.



Chere are a limited number of rooms available at these promotional rates, all bookings subject to availability. Offiers are only available at particip<u>ati</u>n hotels and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Prices are per adult per night based on 2 persons sharing a form or double room or for one pesson in a single mans; there is a supplement for one person in a brindouble more of \$15 per person per night in peak periods, Children under 5 FREE, prices for older children on request. All prices are inclusive of VAT.

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# Our worst child abuse scandal must not be hushed up

Anational scandal is unfolding in north Wales: a report into what could be Britain's most appalling child abuse case is being suppressed. The scandal is not just that at least 100, and possihly doohle that number, children were systematically ahused, while in the "care" of the state in the 1970s and Eighties. It is that a 300-page report into the affair has not been published and there is little sign that it will be soon.

The scandal is one of the most organised and widespread cases of child ahuse yet uncovered, involving a network of people in different local authority homes. At least 16 former inmates of the homes have since died, several through suicide, in circumstances that were related to their dreadful treatment. It is not as if the authorities were unaware of what has gone on. Since 1974, more than 50 staff have been disciplined and several have been convicted. Yet none of the 14 reports into the affair, 12 of them internal, has been puhlished. This is a cover-up on a massive scale. The public is being denied information about how services operated in its name have been systematically exploited for the purposes of sexual abuse of the most vulnerable children. Victims are being denied access to the information they need for redress.

The latest and most comprehensive report was compiled by a team of three external childcare experts led by John Jillings, the former head of Derbyshire social services. It was commissioned last year by Clwyd County Council. Earlier this month, the council decided not to publish the Jillings report and demanded that all numbered copies of the document be handed in for pulp-

ing. It is said the council took this decision because it feared publication would lay it open to legal claims. There are some suggestions that the council's legal advisers warned that the report was libellous. Another suggestion is that the council's insurers, Municipal Motual, warned councillors that the report would help the victims to pursue claims for damages against the coun-

cil. The insurer is alleged to have warned the council that in those circumstances it would not provide cover for the claims against the council. There are still other allegations that this has provided the council with a convenient excuse for not publishing the report. That is not the end of the story, though. Nei-

ther the insurance company nor the council exists any more. Clwyd County Council was swept away at the end of March in another wave of local goverament reorganisation. Responsibility for the report has now passed to Flintshire County Council, which has "administrative" responsibility for it. Pinning down the insurance company is just as difficult. Municipal Mutual, which was a leading local authority insurer, went hust in October 1992. Most of its business was then bought by Zurich Mutual, a Swiss giant. Zurich Mutoal denies it has any responsibility for the case. It says it is a matter for Municipal Mutual, hut Municipal Mutual is winding down.

So this is the situation. One of the worst child

abuse scandals ever is met with a wall of organ-ised irresponsibility and hock passing. The his-tory of abuse and mismanagement at the homes is compounded by the way the imperatives of the private insurance market and the secrecy of local



government have worked together to prevent publication of a vital report.

As a result, answers to even the simplest of questions are difficult to obtain: who is now responsible for deciding whether the report should be published? Put another way: whose report is it?

It seems the answer to both questions will be William Hague, the Secretary of State for Wales. A version of the Jillings report is sitting on Mr Hague's desk, awaiting his return from a trade mission to the United States. It is not Mr Hague's report. But, at the end of the day, in the highly imperfect model greated by our system of local imperfect world created by our system of local government, it seems that, politically, Mr Hague's office is the only place where a decision about publication can be taken. That is not completely illogical. The Welsh

Office is not immune from criticism. It is responsible for overseeing the funding of Welsh local authorities. It operates the system of inspections that so clearly failed to identify or do anything about abuse that took place over many years. Yet it is also an indictment of the way that the case has been handled that a decision on whether to publish the Jillings report should be taken only when the buck is passed all the way up to the Secretary of State.

One lesson from the affair is that the legal sta-tus of these reports needs to be clarified to make it clear what power insurance companies have over them. It is quite normal for there to be a conflict of interest between an insurance company and someone making a claim against it. However, where the interests of the insurance company

threaten to override the public interest, as they might do in this case, it should be perfectly possible to arrange exemptions. One step would be a voluntary code of practice adopted by insurers to make clear they will not prevent publication of information in the public interest. Zurich Motual, for its part, says it would never seek to prevent a councillor making public such a report.
It would simply point out, in the normal way, that claims against a policy would probably lead to loss of discounts or bonuses. There is nothing smister in this; it's just normal insurance practice.

However, a better solotion may to give reports such as this special legal protection to make sure they can be published. One possibility might be that inquiries such as this should be conducted under the wing of a public watchdog answerable to Parliament, such as the National Audit Commission. This formalisation of the status of these reports would help the insurance companies. It would make it clear they had no influence over whether reports such as this could be published. That would put councillors squarely on the spot to take responsibility for making the information public. They could not hide behind the insurers. In the long run, the only way we can have any hope that scandals the like of Clywd will not occur again is if documents such as the Jillings report are made. public and the lessons within them are learnt.

This is the most troubling issue Mr Hague ha had to deal with since assuming his post. He should consider long and hard how to publish the report. But the answer to the big question is already clear, the report must be published and Mr Hague must order it to be published.

### ■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

Sir: Your leader (11 April) about the National Lottery raises important issues about regulation and distribution of money to good causes.

Parliament decided on the distribution of money to good causes. Already the distributing hodies have made over 5,500 awards to projects the length and hreadth of the country. As the number of awards increase, I will continue to keep under review the rules which allow the benefits of the National Lottery to be felt by people in every commonity.

I have already made changes to the rules on distribution. On 1 April I announced that lottery money coold be used, for the first time, on developing the tal-ents and potential of people such as talented athletes and sports people and individual performers and young artists.

The UK lottery is one of the most effectively regulated lot-teries in the world. Parliament one of the lowest to running a factor of 1,000 or maybe the world. a combination of hoth large consumption by National Audit Office, the Public Accounts Committee and the National Heritage Scleet Committee have all scrutinised various aspects of the organisation, regulation and distribotion of lottery funds. It is wrong

simply a chaotic tribal melce ("30 Britons seek refuge in

embassy", 10 April). At the

heart of this tragedy lie struggles between political elites cyni-

young Liberians whose only

opportunity for food, shelter,

and a distorted sense of prestige

comes from the barrel of a gun.

forced to flee their homes -

swelled by a further 20,000 in

the last five days - the imme-

diate need for emergency aid to

protect civilians from degrading

However, if there is any

conditions and cruel treatment

chance of avoiding further con-

flict the United Nations and

donors will have to act forth-

is paramount.

their way.

forward.

Indeed, another stody. A

New Framework for Freight

Transport, published by the

Civic Trust, found that if heavy

lorries were to pay their way.

there would be such a sobstan-

tial switch of freight to the rail-

ways that they woold be able to

run their freight trains, at profit,

without receiving any subsidy

from the Government. That is

the environmentally-friendly

and economically-sensible way

JOHN STEWART

London E3

Chair. Alarm UK

With over 1,200,000 people

Pointing the gun at Liberia

Sir: The conflict in Liberia is not rightly to secure a durable polit-

cally exploiting disaffected the same time the international

to say that there has been little or no monitoring or research on the National Lottery. Oflot has conducted research using four different organisations

over the last ten months. Government research shows tbat the average household spent £2.10 per week after prizes in the first year of the lottery. This compares with an average weekly spend of over £5 on cigarettes and over £12 on alcohol.

This does not suggest excessive participation. Bot there will be further research, and I will continue to monitor the results of that work, taking appropriate action if it is justified.

In an extremely short period of time, the National Lottery has become the most dynamic national institution in Britain. It is the most successful of its kind in the world. It devotes one of the highest proportions is the oltimate regulator. The costs. I intend to ensure that i remains a soccess.

ical solution. Serious pressure

must he brought to bear on the

country's political leaders to

reach a meaningful and

accountable peace accord. At

community must provide con-

stant support for efforts to

demobilise, disarm, and rein-

tegrate soldiers - most of them

VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY Secretary of State for National Heritage Department of National Heritage London SW1

### National Lottery is a success | Evidence of contamination from Chernobyl | Organic

Sir: In claiming that the Chernobyl death toll numbers hundreds of thousands the Ukrainian Government is likely to be

more. A reassessment of interheavy industry and poor efficiency in the whole energy sector. As prices for energy in the Richard Bramhall region reach world market levcorrect ("Confusion as scien-

Chemobyl", 10 April). Chemobyl fallout was measurable not just in Scotland, but Sir: Your editorial is right to as far away as the US, where a number of health effects were identified. These included increases in thyroid cancer and neonatal bypothyroidism, despite the fact that doses from radio-iodine were between 1,000 and 10,000 times smaller than in

tists dispute the death toll after

Belarus and the Ukraine. Cautious western scientists may concede that "the full picture" of health detriment will take years to emerge, but we do not have to wait. There is already plenty of evidence that, where internal contamination is concerned, officially accepted perceptions of health bazard

Low Level Radiation Campaign

Builth Wells, Powys

identify both the need to close the two remaining Chernobyl reactors as soon as possible and the importance of G7 aid to belp achieve this. However, the terms of the G7 deal on offer envisage the majority of the \$2.3bn being spent on the completion of two new noclear reactors in Ukraine, with all the safety, environmental and economic problems this will inevitably entail. Such a course of action would only exacerbate the country's energy and eco-

nomic problems. Ukraine is one of the most energy intensive countries in els, Ukraine will find itself increasingly unable to provide income to meet its fuel bills and the critical state of the country's economy will worsen.

If the G7 is serious about helping Ukraine, the grants and loans it can provide should be directed at improving the efficiency of energy use there. The G7 money invested in energy efficiency could obviate the need for the two new reactors, as well as allowing the closure of Chernobyl.
The UK knows that nuclear

power is oneconomic. John Major shoold be calling for a sensible and sustainable energy policy at the forthcoming G7 meeting.

#### health Sir: My heartfelt thanks to your **Jobs for** writers who put the case so compellingly for organic and less intensive farming methods (9 April). the girls

wife of the disgraced former

When he fell to Earth, Lisa got

m with her parents in Kent, got

people at Virgin Atlantic. And

why not? She likes to waitress.

she needs to travel. Now she's

Good for you, Lisa. But bow

"Hello, my name is Lisa and

"Singapore? I'm on my way

"Don't worry, sir, we're fly-

But I've got a vital meeting

"Of course we will, sirl We're

at 3pm. Will we make it in

just stopping off in Germany for a few weeks." (Smiles brightly.)

Please make sure your seat is

"What about the safety talk?"

"Oh we don't bother with

than any more, sir. Virgin trusts its staff implicitly." (Smiles

brightly.) "Can I get you some-

thing to drink?"
"Oh God ... get me a large

"I'm sorry, sir. We only bave

water available today. 1 think

you'll find it goes very well

"Just give me a pair of ear-

Just kidding! As the people

at Virgin said this week. Lisa's

appointment was "based on

her own merits, personality,

Next, teetering ever so

slightly in her sparkly shoes, comes levely Liz Hurley, girl-friend of the disgraced film

star Hugh Grant, When he fell

with the dry bread."

in an upright position."

long will it last? Because you

I'll be looking after you on today's flight to Singapore."

a waitress in the sky.

know how people talk:

ing the other way today."

to Washington!"

time?

whisky.

and skills".

Barings trader Nick Leeson.

on with her life, sensibly moved

l, for one, would choose to huy organic produce every time and we, the consumers, should demand this and also demand that it be made more easily

available and cheaper. The Government is always going on about the health of the nation. Increasing exposure to harmful chemicals and other aspects of intensive farming is not only jeopardising our health hut the health of future

generations yet onborn. ANN HARRIMAN St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex

Yoors faithfully, Sir: Yoo are quite right a job as a part-time waitress. BRIDGET WOODMAN ("Where is the CID epi-dremic?", 11 April) - there is no world's first celebrity flight London N1 question of an "epidemic" and attendant, employed by the there never will be what is genpeople at Virgin Atlantic. And erally understood by the word 'epidemic". We are not dealing with smallpox or typhoid here: this organism is not a hacterium or an ordinary virus - it is unique and the majority of humans are not likely to be susceptible to it however big a dose

they have swallowed. What is important about these newly-reported cases of CJD in the UK is that they are all so young. Classical CJD does not declare itself until the sufferers are in their sixties or older. Here, in the UK, we suddenly see the disease behaving in a new way, namely appearing in ten people under the age of 40, half of them under 20. What is there about the UK that might have caused it? H C GRANT

London NW3

Sir: Our food is not "coated with thick layers of chemicals" ("Can British farming go green?", 9 April). Where residues occur they are of the order of a part per million and usually occur much less. Residues in crops are subject to statutory maximum residue levels.

DAVID J EAGLE phones, will you?' "Certainly, sir. Our film programme today is Wall Street (Retired soil scientist) Little Shelford Camhridgeshire followed by Escape from Alcatraz." (Smiles brightly.)

Sir. Animal welfarists have long heen compaigning for improved conditions in our slaughterhouses. Amongst other things they have urged that slaughtermen should be better trained and paid as skilled workers. On no account should they be employed on piece-rates with all the opportunities to "cut corners" that such employment presents.

If the Government had taken notice they would have engaged sufficient inspectors to implement soch improvements. Then, perhaps, they would also have been alerted to other corner-cutting activities such as those concerning safety and hygiene.

JOAN HAGGARD Harpendon, Hertfordshire

Sir: In view of the catastrophe that faces the British beef and dairy indostries in Britain, shouldn't we be ploughing op grant-assisted "set aside" land to plant mangles and other winter feed today, in preparation for "organically" feeding our remaining cattle lomorrow?



to Earth, Liz got on with her life, having just taken a job as an icon for the people at Estée he news this week has been A dominated by three nice middle-class girls called Lisa, Lauder. Look, bere she is in Vogue, advertising Perfection-Liz and Di Bright, ambitious, a few years apart in age, they ist Lightweight Creme Makeup: "Luminous, polished, refined." could have been friends. Instead, they offer a lesson in And why not? Liz is luminous, polished, refined. the perils of female celebrity. Here comes fresh-faced Lisa,

Good for you, Liz. Bot how long will it last? Because you know bow people talk:
"Elizabeth? Waft in, please. What's all this about you having an affair. It's all over the Sun. "Jeez Estée, it was years

ago."
"Yeah, but wbo the hell is Tom Sizemore?" "He's an actor, like my

boyfriend. Except better." "My dear Elizabeth, Hugh Grant happens to be a class act. Luminous, polished, refined." "Class act? You call oral sex

with a booker a class act?" Just kidding! As the people at Estée Lauder said when Lizzie's appointment was announced: Her relationship with anyone else has nothing to do with our

choice as spokeswoman."
Finally let's give a big welcome to Princess Di, wife of disgraced beir to the throne Prince Charles. When he fell to Earth, Di got on with her life. as mother, charity worker, ambassador for Britain. Good for you, Di. But how long will it last? Because you know how

people talk: What are we going to do about this cellulite problem, your Highness? The Express called it poison deposits, like slime at the bottom of the

river", "Oh. Max. vou know as well as I that there's no such thing as cellulite. Women who are it bulimic and who don't go to sae gym every day have wobbly thighs. It's a patriarchal conspiracy."

"But your Highness, you do go to the gym every day."

"Do I? Erm, that's because I used to be a princess and princesses have to be perfect. But I've been in therapy, and I'm a person in my own right now. Almost."

The moral? If you're going to be famous, get there on your own merits. Otherwise, you're only as good as the man who got you there in the first place.

#### The true cost Harness the of lorry travel

Sir: It is a pity that Geoff Dos-Sir: Your comments about Lonsetter, of the Freight Transport Association, skated so lightly over the cost to the country of lorry travel (Letters, 6 April). His statement, "lorries pay taxes well in excess of their

road-wear costs". hides more than it reveals. In fact, as recent work by David Pearce has shown, the true costs of lorry travel are very high. If the pol-Architecture Foundation, demonstrates that there is a lution, congestion, noise and deaths and serious injuries caused by heavy lorries are considerable collective spirit given a monetary value, they and a will to do better. come nowhere near to paying

We now need to focus on practical measures to harness that spirit and need to move quickly. A Cities White Paper to match the recent Countryside White Paper would also help.

Director

and future conflict is ever more PHILIP BLOOMER Senior Policy Advisor Oxfam UK and Ireland

### spirit of London

don ("London needs a mayor", 11 April) do less than justice to the range of London-wide initiatives now underway through groups such as ALG and London First.

We do indeed need a greater sense of civic pride but the public's response to the current scries of debates on the future of London, initiated by the

London SW1

of school age - into civilian life.

If young fighters, who have known little but the tragedy of When to endorse the culling of cormorants war, do not see they have an Scaring birds as a means of Food, the Department of the Str: The cormorant debate is alternative to the gun, they will remain a destabilising force

more complex than that described in Martyn Kelly's article (8 April).

The population explosion is largely made up of an inland hreeding, continental subspecies rather than indigenous esturial residents. Robin Wynde, for the RSPB outlines an excessively single-minded hird protectionist case. Conservation is far wider than this.

We seek to protect the genetically unique and rapidly diminishing stocks of Atlantic salmon in the lowland rivers of southern England. Examination of cormorant faeces by colleagues on the rivers Test and Itchen eatchments give ample evidence of micro-tags from threatened juvenile salmon, devoured by these voracious immigrants. These fish stocks have been reared and introduced at great expense and effort by conservationists.

Divorce terms

Sir. The divorce settlement

between Mrs Churchill and

myself is a personal matter

between us. I have no inten-

tion of commenting publicly

upon it beyond saving that

your story ("Lottery may fond Chorchill divorce", 11 April)

is as fancifol as the one in the

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL

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Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters

control is meffective and, at best, simply moves the problem to an upstream or downstream neighbour.

The RSPB are not adverse to a cull when it suits their purpose. Have they not poisoned rats, crushed gulls' eggs and shot foxes in the past? B G MARSHALL Chairman

Wessex Salmon Association Cambridge

Sir: The RSPB makes it clear that it will not flinch from endorsing the killing of cormorants, as part of a properly formulated scheme for scaring the birds away, should scrious damage be proved. This has not been the case in the incidents

which you report (8 April). At the British Trust for Ornithology we are undertaking a contract for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and

William Hickey colomn of the

Daily Express the previous day.

The financial settlement

involved hears no relation to

the sum suggested in your

WINSTON S CHURCHILL

House of Commons

London SW12

MP for Davyholmc (Con)

Environment and the National Rivers Authority to do part of the basic research on these hirds. Has there been an invasion of the southern race sinensis, which is globally rather rare, into Britain to displace our traditional curbo birds? If they have come in are their habits different - in particular are they more likely to fish inland? What are the populations of breeding cormorants doing at the moment?

Your article mentioned an impossible increase in the cormorant colony at Abherton Reservoir in Essex. The breeding hirds there have increased apace but the number of pairs there last year was 507. In 1990 there were 356 pairs present and not 19,000. CHRIS MEAD

Sir: If Kathy King supposes [11

October) that no one wants the

Gateshead Angel, she ought to

visit the exhibition in the Ship-

dominantly favourable.

British Trust for Ornithology Hilborough, Norfolk Angelic comment

ley Art Gallery, where comment in the visitors' book is pre-G N DOYLE Gateshead

GILLIAN O'SULLIVAN

### QUOTE UNQUOTE

Mr Major should get into his government car, drive to Bucking-ham Palace and tell Her Majesty: We have tried, we have failed, we are off - Brian Jenkins, after winning the Staffordshire South East by-election for Labour

For the Christian, to mix religion and politics is not an option it is an obligation - The Venerable George Austin, Archdeacon

What makes people pay money to go to a show and then throw things at the band? - Oasis spokesman, after the group walked: off stage after being pelted with coins and metal objects at a concert in Vuncouver, Canada The more I study human beings, the more I love animals - Doris

Day, veteran film star and animal rights campaigner There are signs that newer, younger members of the House of Commons, many of whom are unable to read or write, are efting above themselves, fretting against any restrictions on their behaviour - Auberon Wangh

The Government may say most crime is drug related. It is not: It is prohibition related - Howard Marks, former marijuana smugoding, gler, at the opening of a cunnabis information centre in London

success, say

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### PROFILE

# The cleverest bird on two legs

No wonder investors were drawn to the ostrich. It's a remarkable success, says Nicholas Schoon

The ostrich is renowned for its stupidity, but it is the thousands of investors in the stricken Ostrich Farming Corporation who are feeling foolish this weekend. When they sent off their cheques for thousands of pounds to buy one of the hirds their heads must surely have been huried somewhere in the sand. Surely "guaranteed" rates of return of at least 50 per cent from such an unlikely investment should have aroused suspicion.

This was not a biotechnology company about to reap huge returns from a major advance in genetics. Nor was it an emerging market fund, feeding off the prodi-gious growth of developing market economies in South-east Asia. This was an investment in a bird. And a bird which has a reputation for stu-

pidity at that. There were some warnings in the press; that an ostrich was not an investment covered by the usual compensation arrangements under-written by law; that the OFC's man-aging director Brian Ketchell bad had business failures earlier in his career. The corporation's offices on a wooded business park near Mansfield in Nottinghamshire are empty. will be a market for their tasty red meat and soft leather hides.

Of course this is not the first time investors have been suckered into an investment of obvious ridiculousness. In the 17th century, the Dutch lost fortunes on a tulip urvestment bubble. There was more recently a fashion for investment in angora goats for their fine wool (how often do you see people wearing them?). Yet in the history of such exotic livestock investment opportunities none seems quite so fitting as the stupid ostrich. But we should be wary of writing

off the ostrich quite so confidently. For ostriches are not stupid, at least not for a hird. They have simply had some ridiculously bad press.

No ostrich has ever been documented as sticking its head in the sand to hide from a threat. The idea that they ever did probably arose from their habit of lying their long necks and head flat on the ground when sitting on the nest, the better to hide themselves from predators. Quite clever, really.

When a group of them is surprised they scatter at top speed in all directions. That makes them look silly, but it is a sensible strat-



A captive ostrich will swallow nails and glass to help it to digest its food

eggs over a few weeks. Other females, which may have no more space in their own nests, pop in to add cggs of their own without the resident mother complaining.

If more eggs are laid than she can cover with her wings and body (36 is not unusual) she begins to cast some out. To us, all the eggs look the same, but fieldwork by Dr

even further than this, if you take the broad, biological view. How did a bird that lost its ability to fly become an evolutionary success story, covering the arid and semiarid regions of all Africa and spreading into Arabia? Imagine what would have happened to us if a vital function, such as the ability to walk, was taken away from us? Seen in that light the ostrich must be a remarkably clever bird to have survived, despite such disadvan-tage. It is a bird that can compete

> street-fighting instincts of a bird that has managed to prosper despite such deprivations. The ostrich may be a vegetarian by nature, but corner a 15-stone, 8ft tall adult and it can turn vicious. Each foot bears two toes that can rip a human body open; several people have been killed by them.

> At the start of the Nincties only a few dozen ostriches were being raised in Britain but today there are 10,000 (so if they all get angry and out of control at the same time

Indeed the farming of the ostrich

may be the latest act in its defiance of evolutionary gravity. Wild ostrich populations have been hard hit by hunting and habitat destruction. They have become extinct in Saudi Arabia; the North African subspecies is endangered. So perhaps their move into farming is a shrewd one; in the next century their captive population will probably out-number the wild one. Once again they seem set to beat the evolu-tionary odds which are stacked

against them. Even in captivity, in Britain at least, farmed ostriches bave escaped battery farming. They are the only farm animal covered by the Dangerous Wild Animals Act. Anyone who keeps them has to have a licence granted annually by the local council, which sets conditions for how they are kept.
Three years ago Dr Bertram

was commissioned by the RSPCA to draw up ostrich farming standards. He stipulated that they should have access to growing veg etation outdoors, and there should be no more than 15 birds per acre. Councils will not usually grant a licence unless these standards are met. Clever hird to have got such comfortable quarters.

### "Tony Blair he seems a sensible guy'

America gave the Labour leader a welcome worthy of a PM, says Rupert Cornwell

the British Ambassador's residence on Thursday, in honour of the visiting Tony Blair. But matter on a night like this?

After a savage winter, spring is at last to be savoured in the capital of the free world. No less intoxicating, proceedings are briefly interrupted to allow the evening's main attraction to give a first reaction to his latest triumph, victory in the Staffordshire South East by-election. Not only is the man a winner, but many of America's mighty can now see it for themselves. God surely has been doing the scheduling for Tony Blair this week. And even the politically neutral Englishman in Washington may be forgiven

for saying, "Not before time."
If truth be told, the Britain that now adorns America's TV screens and newspapers is a rather run-down little theme-park, full of strange, colourful but ultimately inconsequential events. Northern Ireland, in which the Clinton Administration has deeply involved itself, is of course the exception, Otherwise, our recent contributions to the omnivorous news cycles of the US mass media have been mostly tacky, hizarre and tragic - the continuing misadventures of the House of Windsor, mad cows and the massacre at Dunblane.

If only to that extent, Tony

Blair has been a refreshing exception. Not that Blair-mania is sweeping the nation: neither the New York Times nor the Washington Post carried a word about his visit. But that is par for the course in a place where at a press conference with the Israeli prime minister, the principal question a US president had to answer concerned not the Middle East peace process, but allegations of past adultery. (The president in question was not the much-bruited philanderer Bill Clinton, for whom such badgering is routine. It

was gentleman George Bush in August 1992.) But by the cliquish, celebrity-driven standards of the two cities he has visited, Mr Blair has not put a foot wrong. Breakfast in New York with Henry Kissinger (therein lies true gravitas) to start the day on Thursday, and a drinks party

Littan one distinguished guest wonders over dinner at much-noted New Yorker profile of the Labour leader, followed by the Emhassy dinner attended by Colin Powell and

others to wrap it up.
Yesterday saw more of the
same – a 7.15am interview oo Fox Morning News, where the capital's political junkies get their morning fix, to talk about the "stunning" by-election win, proof of New Labour's appeal across the political spectrum, the ability to bring the country together, what we sometimes cal One-Natioo politics". Then it was breakfast with the editorial board of the Washington Post, and later a National Press Club appearance and a lunch thrown by Roon Arledge, head of ABC-TV news, to meet Washington's

assembled punditocracy.

All that and a meeting at the White House with the President. Already a conventional wisdom appears to be gelling: "Tony Blair - he seems a sensible guy," America, in other words, is being reassured: this is a man you can go tiger shooting with. All in all, a fair day's work for Jonathan Powell, Mr Blair's chief of staff and a key planner of the trip, as he cashed in the contacts he had built up during his previous incarna-tion as a political counsellor at the embassy here.

But the meetings that mat-

tered most bere were those of which we heard least. In New York, the financier George Soros, forever remembered as slayer of sterling on Black Wednesday (16 September 1992), bestowed a public blessing of the foreign exchange markets upon Mr Blair, declaring that a Labour victory would not cause a scare among interoational investors".

Not a word, though, has filtered out of the meetings with Robert Rubin, the Federal Reserve chairman, and Alan Greenspan, the Treasury Secretary, keepers of America's purse, whose trust in a Labour government will be no less important than that of Mr Clinton, with whom Mr Blair is so often compared. They too were perhaps startled by his youth – but impressed far more by his insistence that Labour is no longer the tax-and-spend party of old. For that reason, above all. a prime minister-in-waiting has been treated this week almost as here at the home of the jour- a prime minister in office.

### Ostriches are not stupid, at least not for a bird. They have simply had some riduculously bad press

The Department of Trade and Industry put the company into receivership last week. Now the Serious Fraud Office and two police forces are on the trail of its ostriches.

The firm's collapse has pricked the bubble of Britain's ostrich farming boom. Hardly any ostrich meat is sold or eaten in this country; there is not a single ostrich abattoir. But in the past few years, tens of thousands of pounds have poured into buying, keeping and breeding the birds, in the hope that one day there

egy for confusing a serious predator such as a lion.

They abandon eggs in large numbers, pushing them out of their big earthen nests to form a "doomed ring" of unincubated ovoids. That

appears deeply foolish. But, as the ostrich expert Dr Brian Bertram explains, it turns out to be an exercise in ingenuity. Ostrich nests are a sort of collective. Dug out by the male, they are attended by one female who lays the hulk of the 5lb creamy white Bertram and colleagues in East Africa has shown that the resident female almost never ejects any of her own. Clever of her, don't you

Captive ostriches are notorious for eating the inedible - nails, hits of glass and other sharp objects, which then do them great harm. But this seems slightly less stupid when you consider that, in the wild, they regularly swallow largish stones to help grind up vegetable food in their gizzards.

with mammals on their own terms and survive; no mean feat. And do not underestimate the

No, the case for the ostrich goes

there could be a riot).

# A rosbif open a restaurant in Paris?

Sir Terence Conran might teach the French a thing or two about dining out, says Jonathan Glancey

When it comes to the art of eat-ing Nineties-style, no man. roman or child is an island. We have come to eat an atlas of food for reakfast, dinner, lunch and tea. In me and the same restaurant, modern liner buck into food trawled from the world's oceans and cooked in styles idopted from as far affeld as Yucatan and Yakutsk. All's fare, it would ippear, in the war to win the con-

Emporary appetite.
The idea, then, that Sir Terence Conran, gourmet, man of taste and, above all, francophile, might open a estaurant in Paris is surely an innocuhe patron of a Parisian restaurant.

 Sir Terence has recently been sniffng out potential sites, though he is in 10 great hurry and says he is more ikely to open a restaurant in Manlatian before Paris.

Even so, garlic-tainted bile has een rising in the throats of potential Parisian rivals as news of Sir Terence's earch has seeped through the world

grande cuinne. In chic St-Germain-des-Prés, in the leart of Paris, the manager of a popilar brasserie says he is pessimistic about the idea. The Conran style of estaurants, where the food is a mix of ngredients and fiscenes from around he world, is something he hisses, that might be in fastion at the noment; however, in any opinion, if il swell planned and organised, a Conan restaurant may last six months or 'Pven a year.

"I'm not sure," he continues as wait-\*TS shimmer by, "that the Conran idea will go down well. Il does not have a strong enough theme: the principle of in initial different styles of food is not a French one. In any case, there is such a huge choice of different cuisines in Paris that I really cannot see a gap in the market." Well, what did you expect him to say?

Sir Terence, a man for whom Paris has been food and drink for 40 years, sused to the restaurant establishment



Tasteful: Quaglino's, Sir Terence Conran's updated version of a Parislan brasserie Photograph: David Rose

saying his latest venture will fail. Folly, said the experts, to buy Michelin House, in which today you will find Bibendum, one of the choicest restaurants in London, Folly, too, they crowed, to reopen Quaglino's, the zooty, old society restaurant in Lon-don's St James's. Yet, this updated variation on the theme of a voluminous Parisian brasserie is packed to its gunwales day in, day out. Daft, they said, to open a grand, French-style restaurant in the shadow of Tower Bridge. Yet Pont de la Tour has been a glittering success.

Mezzo. Sir Terence's cavernous, late-night Soho "gastrodome", opened late-mgnt some sclearly doomed to rants, but many of the best are living failure. It would spoil Soho. It hasn't Instead, Mezzo has brought increased. and hungry trade to the area, mable London. to cope with the bridge-and-tunnel

hordes who bear down on its highly wrought interiors on weekends.

riences, that rivals will say the same about his up-and-coming eateries in

exported to proud, chauvinistic and defensive culinary Paris? "Oh, I think so," says Sir Terence confidently. "Paris has some wonderful restauin the past. If you want to see the future, I'd tell any Parisian to come to

Chelsea (a conversion of the old Bluebird garage, King's Road) and the City of London (an oyster-bar restaurant, based on the one that has delighted generations of New Yorkers at Grand Central station, in the old Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street station). Can the same Conran magic be

ern restaurant in Paris. I'm not inter-It seems unlikely, after these expe-

ested in aiming for the very top of the market - Michelin three-star territory - because there you'll find that very superior type of restaurant the French do best," he says. "I don't think they're much fun, even if the food is exquisite, of its sort. And the food is still, too often for my taste anyway, over-decorated and over-sauced. They're also far too haughty. They make me feel nervous, which is silly if I'm being asked to pay £100 a head to eat in them.

"No, I think eating out should be fun. I also like the current English idea of

chefs being allowed to experiment day to day. In the grandest Parisian restaurants, tradition tends to rule the roost." While Parisians are able to indulge in a every sort of food, they tend to eat

dishes invented on hrasseries fronting Bondi Beach to be served in La Tour d'Argent (Henry IV came here for the heron paté in the 16th century) or Alain Senderen's wood-panelled Lucas-Carton, place de la Madeleine. If they want Vietnamese, they will

eat in the city's popular Vietnamese restaurants, and if they want cous-cous, they will plump for perennially popular Moroccan restaurants. In recent years, Tex-Mex food (call that cooking?) has made heavy inroads into the Parisian gullet, but this is consumed solely in kitsch Tex-Mex hangouts.

The harn-like old hrasseries -Bofinger, Lipp, Flo, Chartier, La Coupole - that have so influenced Sir Terence continue to dish out reliable, hut not especially wonderful, food in gloriously atmospheric surroundings (old ladies spoon-feeding poodles, that sort of thing), but few Parisian restaurants offer the eelectic menus we have come to expect in London.

"I love Paris," says Sir Terence, "but I don't think Parisian restaurateurs can afford to be too smug. After all, what can you say about a city that has seen the rapid spread of a chain of fast food joints called Flunch? And, if Parisians are not tucking into 'flunch', they have their noses in a polystyrene container hot from the city's favourite restaurant chain, McDonald's.

"If I want to eat in a very grand old reslaurant in the grand French tra-dition, of course, I'll head for Paris. But, that's something I don't want to do all that often. And, I don't think all that many Parisians want to, either. The restaurant world is changing and, I think, very much for the better, Paris shouldn't want to be a museum of haute cuisine, and I don't think, whatever anyone says, it will

allow itself to be." Which means that when Sir Terence Conran opens his first French restaurant, it will be less of a case of sending duck à l'orange to Paris and more these in themed or "ethnic" restau- a matter of offering Parisians a taste "To love to have a go at a truly mod-rants. They do not expect to find of duck au Conran.

### Save the Children Right now, Children are dying in Liberia

The fighting in Liberia has escalated dramatically. Children have been forced to flee their homes and villages, dodging bullets and mortar fire. There is no embassy for them to run to. Many children have received horrific injuries and lost one or both parents. Thousands of children face possible death.

As little as £10 will help provide food, medical supplies and care for those in the most urgent need. We can help the children, but only if we act now and only with your help.

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Benjanin

Eisenstadt

Benjamin Eisenstadt was the

man who made the sugar spoon obsolete and went on to develop the low calorie sweetener Sweet'N Low. He followed a circuitous route to great fortune

and was well known in his later years as a philanthropist and a major benefactor to the Maimonides Medical Center in

The son of Russian immi-

grants, Eisenstadt was born in

1906 on the Lower East Side of

Manhattan and appeared head-

ed for a career as a lawyer

after he graduated from St John's University law school in

1929. The Depression spoiled his chances and he took a job

working in his father-in-law's

cafeteria before opening one of

his own, the Cumberland, near

the naval shipyard in Brooklyn

Providence struck again when the end of the Second World War left Eisenstadt

bereft of customers and, re-

calling an uncle who had once

operated a company that filled tea-bags, he turned the gafete-ria into a tea-bag factory, the Cumberland Packing Company.

Overwhelmed by existing sup-pliers and faced with another

husiness failure, Eisenstadt

New York.

## obituaries/gazette

## Marcel Bleustein-**Blanchet**

The history of advertising in France is unusual. Newspapers were slow to make space for publicity. It was widely held that advertising meant corruption (and so it did when Marcel Proust had to pay both journalist and newspaper in order to get a favourable review). But, just as the French overcame their reluctance to have anything to do with the banks or with the stock exchange, so advertising and publicity have become a vital part of national activities. Were proof needed one has only to look at the eulogies delivered for Marcel Bleustein-Blanchet, on his death at the age of 89. One left-wing journal hailed him on its front page as the Pope of Publicity, "le Pape de la Pub".

Of course, every country is proud of its rags-to-riches citizens. Bleustein, as he was called, was born in 1906 of a Jewish family living in Montmartre. He attended the local school where his main preoccupation was to sit near the stove in winter and near the door in summer. He left as soon as possible carrying with him a certificate which stated that he was able to read, to write and to count. Bleustein never tired of telling the story, always



'le Pape de la Pub

adding that mention should have been made that he was also able to speak. An ability to convince, together with a supreme self-confidence, explains his

For a time he worked in the

furniture business of Leviten (he was related to the family) and then set up in two small rooms on the Faubourg-Montmartre as a publicity agent. At first it was difficult and he found that possible customers did not know what he was talking about. But he inspired confidence. His agency, Publicis, was founded in 1926 ("cis" for "six", in French) and in 1929 he first had the idea of using the radio for publicity purposes; it was an immense success. Reputedly in this year he hecame a millionaire.

Bleustein used every method to promote himself. On one occasion he booked a table for dinner in Maxim's and, when the restaurant was full, he went round all those who were dining there, the smartest of the smart, introduced himself and shook hands. People were puzzled, hut informed.

In 1934 the austere Georges Mandel became minister responsible for the Post Office and its services, and he banned all advertising on radio. Bleustein was ruined. But he picked himself up and created his own radio station, Radio Cité. The risk paid off. It was a great success, thanks to the artists who appeared there, including many who were becoming famous, such as Tino Rossi, Charles Trenet, Edith Piaf and Jean

And Bleustein was the inventor of the advertising slogan. His phrases were repeated on the radio and throughout France. Many are still rememhered. In the days of furs and fur coats, there was the unforgettable \*Brunswick, le fourreur qui fait fureur". Bleustein 11 April 1996.

was part of French life. In 1939 he served in the air force. In 1940 the Germans took over Radio Cité and looked for its owner, who spent some time in a Spanish prison before join-ing de Gaulle. He then adopted the name of Blanchet and was on the staff of General Koenig, who was one of the first

Free French leaders to land in

Back in France he brought many Gaullists into the publicity business, although Albert Camus was hitterly disappointed not to have his financial support for a progressive newspaper. Instead, Bleustein-Blanchet collaborated with Pierre Lazareff (with whom he had been at school) for the paper France-Soir. Installed in the buildings of the Hôtel Astoria on the Champs-Elysées (which were burned down in 1972 hut rebuilt), he knew everyone and was alert to a France that was rapidly changing. Who else would have told de Gaulle in 1958 that he had no idea of bow he should appear on televi-sion? (And de Gaulle took his advice.) Who else would have installed a drug-store on the Champs-Elysées and in the Latin Quarter?

Bleustein-Blanchet was one of the first to understand the importance of public opinion polls, in commerce and in politics, and he was instrumental in organising what has become a minor industry and an inescapable facet of French life.

In 1939 he married Sophie Vaillant, the granddaughter of Edouard Vaillant, one of the founding fathers of French

**Douglas Johnson** Marcel Bleustein, advertising and publicity entrepreneur, born Paris 1906: married 1939 Sophie Vaillant (three daughters); died Paris



### **Margaret McLean**

Whether due to feminism or the triumph of trivia there has been an increasing fascination with the role of women in Hollywood, from the ideology of physical glamour to the practicalities of the technical work they have been allowed to perform there. Barbara McLean. who died at a suitably mythic 92, was not only boyishly beautiful in a manner appropriate to the golden age of Californian cinema, she was also, more importantly, a revered editor who perhaps single-handedly established women as vital creative figures in an otherwise patriarchal industry.

McLean was nominated for no less than seven Oscars for her cutting ways, finally winning the award in 1944 for Wilson, and without her film editing would never have developed into the female speciality, "ghetto" some might say, it has

McLean had an advantage in that she had been chopping and gluing since girlhood in her father's film laboratory in New Jersey, and when she moved to Los Angeles in 1924 she continued this paternalistic pat-tern by becoming the adopted protégée of Darryl F. Zanuck, the notorious 20th Century Fox chief. In fact Zanuck relied upon "Bobbie", as she was called by those who dared, for almost all his artistic decisions over several decades, and when he pronounced "Bohbie says ... " it meant the matter was settled. Thus it was on Bobbie's recommendation that Tyrone

from costumes to composers and composition. McLean was head of Fox's editing for over 20 years and personally edited all of Zanuck's

Power was hired for Lloyd's of

London and became a star,

Zanuck deferring to her opm-

ion in every area of the business

projects, her dedication heing egendary whether watching a film 100 times before making a final cut or spending hours on the set noting the director at work. One of her regular collaborators was Henry King, and when he was shooting The Captain from Castille in 1947 she flew down to Mexico repeatedly to confer on the cutting, believing that a thorough editor should have seen a film's development all the way through.

Beginning in 1934 with The House of Rothschild and The Affairs of Cellini, McLean went on to edit innumerable films, everything from classics such as All About Eve to the improba-hly fitled The Magnificent Dope. Amongst her last films was The Untamed (1955), hut far from being tamed herself by old age or changes in technology McLean only officially retired

from Fox in 1969. Whether her exceptional

slicer and splicer's eye was inherited from her family or was due to her musical studies as a child which ensured she could cut a musical to the beat, there can be no contradicting Ronald Davis's description in his 1993 hook The Glamour Factory: "Creative, imaginative, and expert in her art, McLean was also quiet, efficient and co-operative." If that sounds like a patronising male qualification it can only seem radical by comparison with McLean's own theory on why women make better editors than men: "Because every woman is at heart a mother. A woman uses the scissors on a film like a mother would, with affection and understanding and tolerance,"

Adrian Dannatt

Barbara McLean, film editor: born Palisades Park, New Jersey 1904: died Newport Beach, California 28 March 1996.

realised that the same equipment could be used to put sugar in little paper bags. At a time when restaurants still used open sugar bowls and sugar spoons his idea was revolutionary. Unfortunately Eisenstadt was still naïve and showed his invention to the existing sugar giants who promptly set up their own sugar-packet productions and soon had America, and later the world, shaking its sugar before sweetening its hot drinks. Eisenstadt's luck changed

in 1957 when, tinkering with his chemistry-educated son, he mixed saccharin, which was only available as a liquid or pill and restricted for use for diabetics and the obese, with dextrose. Taking care to patent what was the first granulated low-calorie sugar substitute, he named the product Sweet'N Low after the Tennyson poem and distinguished it from white sugar packets with a pink packet printed with a treble-clef

UK GROAT

musical logo. This time his timing was per fect and he rode the crest of the 1960s health craze to fortune. He later developed an even lower-calorie sugar substitute branded Equal and sold in hlue packets, as well as a butter substitute, Butter Buds, and a salt substitute, Nn-Salt.

Despite increased competition, the company, which still manufactures on the site of the cafeteria, turns over \$100m a year, employs 400 people and turns out 50 million packets of Sweet'N Low a day from a global web of plants including ones in England, India, Israel and Canada.

**Edward Helmore** 

Benjamin Eisenstadt, entrepreneur and philanthropist: born New York 23 December 1906: married Betty Gellman (two sons, two daughters); died New York 8 April 1996.

Agron Sulaj, football coach, died Tirana 8 April, aged 44. Albanian National Team Coach 1985-90.

Marco Burnelli, superbike rider, died Monza, Italy 8 April, aged 29. Killed in a crash in an Italian championship race.

### Elaine O'Beirne-Ranelagh

From folklore to feminism. from music to Mussolini, from American music to Irish nationalism and rughy jokes, a richly varied life, in which her have been indispensable in the strong individualism and perceptive intellect enabled her to make contributions well ahead

of her time. Born Elaine Lambert Lewis in New York in 1914, she took a degree in Classics at Vassar before moving to the University of Indiana to study folklore. In 1933 she won a Guggenheim Fellowship to Rome to study tialian fairy tales. She met Mussolini at a reception and spent much of the rest of her stay in Italy fighting off his advances.

Returning to America, she developed a strong interest in native music, particularly negro spirituals and slave music, and was one of the first to record and hroadcast authentic jazz. Her radio programme Folksongs for the Seven Million on WNYC hrought the music of Leadbelly (Huddy Leadbetter) time. Equally at home with

academics or poor black musicians, she was appreciated for her perfect manners and total indifference to class and social early years of her romance, marriage and transplantation to the wilds of Ireland.

Elaine Lamhert Lewis met James O'Beirne-Ranelagh the O'Beirne Ranelagh to anyone with respect for the Irish clans - through a shared passion for Irish folklore. When he gathered some Irish friends together to perform on her special St Patrick's Day radio programme, they even added authenticity by wrecking the studio with a genuine Irish hrawl. When Elaine was James's guest at a special dinner of an Irish-American society, admiration was expressed for the calmness with which she picked hroken glass from her plate and con-tinued with the meal after a rival Irish-American group had hrought the chandelier crashing

down on to the table. They married and he took her back to Ireland. She told the

ed, sophisticated American ty or running water, and with ways four children to hring up, in Himself and I (published in 1957 under the pseudonym of Anne O'Neill-Barna). "I heard references to his being a member of the IRA," she wrote, "and hadn't the remotest idea what

it meant - I mean folk-tales never went into that. The book, a hilarious account of naïvety, Irishness and inspired improvisation, might perhaps have been more wideread had it not been banned hy the Catholic Church though its author was never quite sure whether that was because of disparaging remarks made about a local priest, or the detailed description it contained of how turkeys mate.

Economic circumstances, and a desire to secure a good education for her children. forced a move to England, where she worked for the US Air Force lecturing at a base near Cambridge on Classics,

story of how an urban, educat- English and folklore. She also tried her hand at romantic ficwoman found herself landed in tion, with a novel, Wentworth the outback, with no electrici- Hall, appearing in 1974. She aladmitted to finding the Mills & Boon style difficult to and eight similar titles. She master "because the characters" researched these with her cuskeep getting away from me". What she found so taxing was the need to make intelligent women characters act stupidly.

Perhaps that experience sowed the seeds for Men on Women (1985), a historical survey of men's assumptions about women, showing that male attitudes - consistent at different periods of history and in diverse cultures - are apparently in-escapable. Her views on this subject, however, hoth predated and enhanced conventional feminism. She never saw the need to fight for feminine equality, having been one of the first wave of women who genuinely believed, and demonstrated, that they were equal.

That book and the earlier The Past We Share (1979) - a study of the part of our culture we owe to the Arah world - form her major academic publications,

though she did also write a successful series of paperbacks in the 1970s and 1980s including Rugby Jokes, Son of Rugby Jokes, tomary rigour, using a wide string of contacts to gather material. The best, Rugby Jokes in the Office (1989), hroke new ground in sociological research collecting amusing items that office workers photocopy and stick on notice-boards.

The Rugby Joke series as a whole, however, caused consternation among her children, who found the jokes neither dirty nor funny, and led them to suspect their mother understood neither sex nor humour. Mussolini, and many others who had been captivated by her wit, would not have agreed. William Hartston

Elaine Lambert Lewis, writer and broadcaster: born New York 6 July 1914; married 1946 James O'Beirne-Ranelagh (died 1982; one son, three daughters); died London 5 April 1996.



ime-Ranciagh: 'Folk-tales never

### Births, Marriages & Deaths

### **DEATHS**

HORTON: Olivia (nee Murphy), aged 34. At the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, on 10 April. Beloved daughter of Josephine Bryant, and the late Brian Murphy; sister of Justin and Caspar: partner of Paul. Livvy's funeral will take place at 12 noon, on Thursday 18 April. at Honor Ook Crematorium. Brockley Way. London SE4. Friends and colleagues all warmly welcomed. Family flowers only please, but any donations to the Royal Marsden Hospital, London SW3. KLEIN: Josephine Parfitt Klein died on KLEIN: Josephine Parlitt Klein died on 11 April, aged 67. Funeral (no black; small bunches of flowers only) will be held at St Marylebone Crematorium, East Finchley. 11.30 Wednesday 17

### IN MEMORIAM

SWAMINATHAN: Malati. In ever-loving memory of our dear sister and aunt who left us on 9 April 1988. For-ever in our hearts. Venka. Bette, Nikhil, Ayesha.

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS please telephone 0171-293 2011 or fax to 0171-293 2010. Notices are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

Changing of the Guard TORAY: The Household Cavalry Mount ed Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham; Ist Bat-tation Welsh Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buelinghum Palace, 11 Mam. band provided by the Irish Guards. TOMORROW: The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 10am; F Company Scots Guards mot

Queen's Guard, at Anchingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Sculy

### Birthdays

Mr Bradford Dillman, actor, 66; Sir John Gielgud, actor, 92; Mr Gerry Gillman, former trade union leader. TODAY: Miss Andrey Barker, author. 78; Mr Stepben Byers MP, 43; Air 69: Mr Ivor Guest, ballet writer, 76; Vice-Marshal Sir Bernard Chacks-field, 83: Mr Frank Chamberlain, Lord Hastings, farmer and former government minister. 84; Miss Valerie Hobson (Mrs John Profumo), former chairman, Test and County Cricket Board, 7t: The Hon Alan Clark, foractress, 79: The Most Rev Dr David mer government minister, 68; The Hope, Archbishop of York, 56; Mr Paddy Hopkirk, racing rally driver, Right Rev Roderic Coote, former Bishop of Colchester, 8t; Mr Liam 63; Mr Inlian Lloyd Webber, cellist, 45; Miss Lorella Lynn, country Bishop of Cotchester, 81, Wr. Lam Cosgrave, former leader of the Fine Gael party in the Republic of Ireland, 76; Mr Beverley Cross, playwright, 65; Lord Davidson, a Senator of the Col-lege of Justice in Scotland, 67; Mr Peter Davison, actor, 45; Mr Stanley singer, 61; Mr Michael Maclagam, for-mer Richmond Herald of Arms, 82; Col Sir Robert Macrae, former Lord-Lieutenani of Orkney, 81; The Right Rev Michael Marshall, Archbishops' Donen, film director and producer, 72; Mr Edward Fox, actor, 59; Proadvisor on Evangelism, 60; Baroness fessor Albert Halsey, sociologist, 73; Sir Jeremiah Harman, High Court judge, 66; Air Marshal Sir Kennetb Hayr, former Deputy Chief of De-Masham of Ilton, President, Spinal Injuries Association, 61: Mr Patrick Ramsay, former Controller, BBC Scotland. 70; The Right Rev Leslie Rees, Assistant Bishop, Winchester. 77: Professor John Roberts, former Warden, Merton College, Oxford, 68; The Ven Raymond Roberts, former fence Staff, Ministry of Defence, 61: Mr Seamus Heaney, poet, 57; Sir Peter Heap, former ambassador to Brazil, 61; Mr Garry Kasparov, chess champion, 33; Mr Howard Keel, Chaplain of the Fleet, 65; Mr David Skipper. Director. Westminster singer and actor, 77; Canon John Kel-ty, former principal, St Edmund Hall, Oxford, 87; Mr Jonjo O'Neill, Centre for Education, 65; Mr Rod Steiger, actor, 71; Miss Elizabeth Symons, trade union leader, 45; Sir raceborse trainer, 44; Dame Mar-Peter Thompson, life president, NFC plc. 68: Mr George Walker, former chairman and chief executive, Brent garet Price, operatic singer, 55; Sir Stephen Roberts, former chairman, Milk Marketing Board, 81: Miss Barbara Roche MP, 42: Mr Christo-Walker, 67; Baroness Warnock, former Mistress of Girton College. pher Strauli, actor, 50; Lord Wed-Cambridge, 72 derburn of Charlton, Professor Emeritus of Commercial Law, London School of Economics, 69; Miss Anniversaries Eudora Welty, novelist, 87; Sir John Weston, ambassador and UK Permanent Representative to Nato, 58:

chief executive, Tobacco Advisory

Council, 75; Miss Marjorie Yates,

TOMORROW: Sir Patrick Brown,

Permanent Secretary, Department of Transport, 56; Miss Julie Christic, ac-

tress, 56: Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey

Dalion, former Deputy Supreme

Allied Commander, Atlantic, 65;

actress, 55.

Lt-Gen Sir James Wilson, former

TODAY: Births: Thomas Jefferson, third US President, 1743; Frank Winfield Woolworth, chain-store pioncer, 1852. Deaths: Jean de La Fontaine, poet and writer of fables. 1695; James Buchanan Brady ("Diamond Jim"), financier, 1917. On this day the Royal Military Academy was established at Woolwich, 1741; The Messiali by George Frederick Handel, was first performed, Dublin 1742 Today is Maundy Thursday and the Feast Day of Saints Agathonice, Carpus, and Papylus. SI Guimoch, SI Hermenegild. SI Martin I, pope and St Manius or Mars. Today is the beginning of the Sikh New Year.

TOMORROW: Births: Arteold Joseph Toynhee, historian, 1889; François Duvalier, Haitian dictator ("Papa Doc"), 1907. Deaths: Thomas Otway, playwright, 1685; George Frederick Handel, composer, violinist and organist, 1759; Simone de Beau-voir, writer, 1986; Leslie Charteris, novelist and creator of "The Saint" 1993. On this day: Abraham Lincoln 16th US President, was shot by the assassin John Wilkes Booth, 1865; the first quintuplets in Scotland were born, to Mrs Linda Bostock, of Armadale, West Lothian, 1972. Today is Easter Day in the Greek Orthodox Church and the Feast Day of Saints Antony, John and Eustage, St Ardalion, St Benezet, St Bernard of Tiron or Abbeville, St Caradoc, St John of Vilna, St Lambert of Lyons Saints Tibortius, Valerius and Maximus and The Martyrs of Lithuania

#### Lectures TODAY

Victoria and Albert Museum: Emma Taylor, "Fashionable Dress and Accessories 1620 to 1740", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury "Cezanne and the Human Figure Inm: David Cohen. "Roger Fry's Cezanne", 3.30pm. British Museum: Rowena Loverance "The Painted Churches of Cyprus" 1.15pm.

Holman, "Style and Technique in 20th-century Portrailure". 3pm. TOMORROW Tate Gallery: John Roberts, "Bill Woodrow's New Work", 2.30pm. National Portrait Gallery: Wendy Nelson-Cave, "Theatrical Pontait from William Shakespeare to Sarah

National Portrait Gattery: Valerie

# Faith in a controlled environment

In one of her letters, Rose Macaulay, novelist and High Church dame of the mid-20th century, admits to being a "hlucdomer". It is a self-conscious, falsely apologetic phrase to describe somebody ho skives off matins or evensong and worships, instead, under the blue dome of heaven. Apologies to any New Agers, hut respectable Anglican ladies were out there first. t have traced the phrase as far hack as

Shelley, who wrote: t am the daughter of Earth and Water, And the nurshing of the sky . . . . . . the winds and sunbeams with their

Build up the blue dome of air.

Easter Sunday morning is the one occasion of the year when my family and I become blue-domers, getting up before dawn to watch the sun slip above the horizon on the cast coast of England. This time, of course, we had to make do with being grey-domers, since nothing was going to penetrate the mist and cloud. We drew a sun in the sand, played hide-andseek among the beach huts, and walked

back home to eat Easter eggs. Further up the beach, a "sumrise service" was just beginning, with a couple of songs, a reading and a sermonette. It was a typical case of Anglicans seeking compromise when no compromise is possible: you can't let people stay in bed till 7 o'clock and then have a sunrise service. The

unruly sun rose at 6.25 and that was that. Christian services, with only a very few, half-haked, exceptions, are held indoors. This is a serious point. The entire evangelistic effort of the Church is devoted to luring new people into its buildings. Out of doors, worshippers feel puny and

## faith o reason

Paul Handley, Editor of the Church Times and an Easter 'blue-domer', sets out to answer the question of an 11-year-old: If God is everywhere, why do we go to church?"

exposed. Palm Sunday processions, the weckend before Easter, always generate great anxiety: "What if we're seen?"

It is an odd fear for Christians to have, given that they follow a religion born un-der the blue dome of the Palestinian sky. Although Jesus attended the temple. religiously one presumes, most of the Gospel accounts place him outside, in the hills, in the wilderness, hy the heach. He takes a multitude of his followers so far away from shops and houses that they have to be fed by miraculous loaves and fishes. He climbs on a boat when the crowd on the beach becomes too large. When he goes into a house, followers break open the roof in order to lower a sick man down on a stretcher.

The Church, for some reason, takes as its starting-point the scene in the upper room, where Jesus gathered his disciples in private, just before he went to his death. An upper-room sort of faith celebrates the sacred mysteries in semi-secret, drawing the faithful together by emphasising the hostility of the world and the people out-

side the walls. The only elements allowed to be present are the consecrated ones of hread and wine.

It is a controlled environment, and this is the key. A flock which is hemmed in, surrounded by walls and covered by a roof, is bound to be more attentive to its shepherd. A crowd outside always has people on its edge, distracted by the birds in a hedge, the curl of the waves, a passing car.

More troublesome than that, a crowd outside doesn't often want to be a crowd. Things are fine if there is a charismatic speaker holding the gathering together: in general, though, people just drift apart. The outdoors is not a place for standing about, it is a place for doing things.

This was presumably what was in the mind of my 11-year-old son when he said a few days ago, "Well, if God is everywhere, a few days ago, "wen, it God is everywhere, why do we go to church?" This, as other parents will recognise, is argument number 12 in the Child's Manual for Avoiding Church. (There are hundreds more.) He just wanted to go and play football on the common. I, in my turn, employed parent's response number one (there is only one): Because I say so."

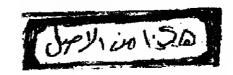
I suppose the thing about blue-doming is that it is a hit of a skive. You don't contemplate nature - the fotherington-tomas "hullo clouds hullo sky" school of spirituality - with any degree of concentration. The vastness of God is not something you can hold in your mind for long. It recay is a case of a short scrawl in the sand and then on with the hide-and-seek. The object is simply to recall that the earth is the

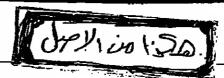
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Lord's and all that therein is. The other object is to enjoy yourself. You see why the churches are so uncomfortable with the idea.





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### Market Report: Tory loss concentrates minds 22

Stephen Littlechild

DEPUTY CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: MICHAEL HARRISON

## DTI probes leak of go-ahead for £4bn power bids

<sup>20</sup> business

THE INDEPENDENT • Saturday 13 April 1996 •

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2530 fax 0171-293 209

**MARY FAGAN** Industrial Correspondent

The Department of Trade and Industry yesterday launched an inquiry into the leaking of a Monopolies and Mergers Commission report recommending that electricity company takeovers worth more than £4bn be allowed to proceed.

The Stock Exchange is believed to have contacted both the DTI and the MMC to ascertain who has had access to information from the report on National Power's proposed takeover of Soutbern Electric and that of PowerGen for Midlands Electricity.

The Exchange, which declined to comment, is also expected to voice its concerns to the Takeover Panel following massive surges in sbare prices in the electricity sector.

The leak caused acute emharrassment in Whitehall and prompted a swift attack by the Labour Party. The MMC document, which appears to give the go-abead to both takeovers with only minor conditions at-

weeks ago to Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry - due back on Monday after a trade mission to Japan.

Mr Lang, who is expected to accept the MMC's advice, was not planning to publish the re-port for at least another week. John Battle, shadow energy minister, said the event "throws into question the integrity of the relationship between the Sec-

retary of State and the MMC". He added: "The contents are so market price-sensitive that energy companies' shares are changing hands before the Sec-retary of State makes a decision on the findings of the report. This is an incredibly dangerous precedent that casts competition

The bids by National Power and PowerGen are controversial as they would in effect recreate the vertically integrated structure of the sector which was dismantled before the in-

dustry was privatised. However, Mr Lang bad already set a precedent last year clearing the takeover of Manweb, an electricity distribution and supply company in the

The MMC recommendation to clear the National Power and PowerGen bids will also be seen as a blow to the regulator, Professor Stepben Littlechild, who is against vertical integration. A spokeswoman for the watchdog said that they could

lished report.
The DTI said: "The position remains that no decision has been taken." The Secretary of State must accept an unequiv-ocal MMC approval for a merger. But the DTI said that he could block it if the Commission suggested that a merger might in some way be against the public interest. Mr Lang might also decide to give the proposed merger the go-ahead but to impose conditions of his own.

not comment on an unpub-

The MMC is thought to have put forward conditions for the bids including the disposal of any generating plants owned by Southern and Midlands.

National Power and Power-Gen are also expected to be forced to ring-fence contracts between the companies they are buying and other generators. A further constraint would be changes to the companies'

licence conditions to ensure that Professor Littlechild has access to information needed to

regulate effectively. Shares in Southern Electric surged by 21p to 893p on anticipation of a renewed bid by National Power while those in Midlands rose by 7p to 405p.

Shares in the generators also moved up sharply with National Power gaining 14p to close at 492p and PowerGen np by 13.5p at 562.5p. None of the companies was willing to com-ment on the report, which they

shocks the industry

by re-opening

of electricity

plant disposals in addition to substantial plant sales already being forced on the companies by Professor Littlechild.

National Power and PowerGen

are concerned that Mr Lang

might impose further power

Power shocks in electricity sector

July 1995: Takeover fever grips the sector with the launch of a bid for South Western Electricity by

FTSE 350 electricity

(pence)

of the US and an agreed bid by Hanson

Southern Electric Internation

July 1995: Shares move up sharply

on publication of new price controls which were more lenient

3000

SONDJFMA from their bids rather than see their share of the generating market shrink further. Separately, it emerged that

August 1995: Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, clears bids for Eastern, Manweb and SWEB

November 1995: Mr Lang decides to

refer the bids by National Power for Southern Electric and PowerGen

for Midlands to the MMC

Prudential has a 4.9 per cent stake in Yorkshire Electricity, which has been at the centre of bid speculation in recent weeks,

crease Anglo's dominance of

the platinum market, where it

is the world's biggest producer.

more is Lonrho's 43 per cent

shareholding in the Ghana-

based gold producer Ashanti

and its Duiker coal mining in-

Announcing the agreement

esterday, Lontbo said it had

decided that a closer partner-

ship was necessary with Anglo

to facilitate the separation of its

mining and non-mining busi-

pointed to the Lonrho board.

demerger," Anglo spokesman

The put and call arrange-

ment will remain in place un-

til 13 September, 1997. It

values Mr Bock's stake at be-

tween £260m and £315m com-

pared with a value at last

Michael Spicer said.

But what interests Anglo

### at float options NIC CICUTTI Standard Life, the largest mu-

tual insurer in Europe, con-firmed yesterday that it had asked one of its top executives, John Thomson, to examine the possible implications of demin-tualising in a flotation the City thinks would be worth £5bu.

Standard

Life man

looking

It also admitted that it has been considering whether to take over a UK building society to broaden its business in the mortgage market.
The insurer has issued a CV

for Mr Thomson stating that an examination of both was part of his responsibility before his promotion this week to chief investment manager, responsible for £44on of society funds.

But the company strongly denied it had any plans to de-mutualise, and added that no decision had yet been reached on whether to carry the idea of building society takeover

Jim Stretton, chief executive of Standard Life's UK operation yesterday, said: Continuing speculation that [we] will demutualise forces us to restate that we have no plans to [do so]. It would not be in our policyholders' best interests.

"Mutuals have consistently produced better returns for their policyholders than proprietary companies in the past and Standard Life's record has been second to none."

Mr Stretton's comments were part of a careful damage limitation exercise aimed at snuffing out a potential demutualisation fever among its 3 million-plus policyholders.

Mr Stretton added that Standard Life did not need to seek outside funds to finance any of its future ventures: "[We are] extremely strong financially, being one of only a handful of life. companies in the world with Triple A rating from both Standard & Poor and Moody's." It comes as virtually every top-10. building society has announced. plans to abandon its mutual sta+ tus, giving more than 15 million wing and borrowing mem--Anglo meanwhile said it would bers free shares worth an aver-

co-operate with Lonrho to deage of £1,000 each. Insurance analysts believe velop its gold and coal interests in Africa. A senior Anglo techthe insurance sector is set for a nical director has also been apradical shake-out in the next five years, with up to half the 100-"This allows people to get to plus mutual insurers now in opknow each other ... to go for-ward together in the eration merging or being taken over by rivals.

Norwich Union, the secondlargest UK mutual insurer, announced in October that it was examining the option of a £1.7bn stock market flotation, claiming that de-mutualisation would give it the funds needed to expand the range of services it offers. A decision by NU is expected by the end of this year.

### City analysts believe that the are thought not to have seen. Industry sources said that Anglo-American wins right to buy Bock's £300m Lonrho stake

MICHAEL HARRISON

The South African mining giant Anglo-American yesterday moved a step closer to taking control of Lonrho's mining interests after being granted the right to buy chief executive Dieter Bock's £300m stake in

ing in Lonrho to just under 30 per cent and provide the springboard for it to take charge of the group's platinum, gold and merger of Lonrho's mining interests from its trading and notels business takes place this summer. Anglo, which together with its asociates now owns 10 per cent of Lonrho, already had the option to buy Mr

chose to sell. Under the put and call deal agreed yesterday, Anglo has the right to buy Mr Bock's 143.5 million sbares at 220p while be can force a sale at 180p.

the non-mining businesses in the subsequent flotation.

Mr Bock will use the proceeds from Anglo to acquire a 25 per cent stake in the quoted non-mining company which will own Lourho's trading and hotel operations and will inherit the bulk of Lonrho's £430m debt. Oliver Baring of SBC

mode bul this puts them in a strong position where they can do all sorts of things,"

leave Nintendo far behind.

nology, will he launched in the

late autumn, denying sugges-

tions that its début bas been put

back until next year. A price

Nintendo has enjoyed much

success with its Gamehoy ma-

chine hut instead of joining

Sega and Sony with new 32-bit

machines which are more pow-

erful, it has chosen to wait and

try to leapfrog rivals with its 64-

Sega is set to announce that it has first publication rights to

Virgin's Heart of Darkness, an

interactive cartoon-based game.

Sony will not have rights to pub-

lish the game on in Playstation

hit machine.

point has yet to be decided.

A full takeover of Lonrho's mining operations could cause problems with competition authorities because it would in-

Warburg, which brokered the deal on behalf of Anglo, said:

"I don't think Anglo is in bid



Bock's stake in the mining op-erations and tender its stake in would lift Anglo-American's holding to about 30 per cent

### night's 207.5p closing price of £297m. Inflation fears

recede in US The company insists its longdelayed Nintendo 64 console, DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor** which operates on 64-bit tech-

> Further evidence of a revival in the American economy, with no sign yet of bigher inflation. belped US financial markets

bounce back yesterday. New figures showed retail sales barely rose in March but this was entirely because of huge upward revisions to Fcb-

ruary's sales figures.
Sales grew 0.1 per cent last month after climbing 1.9 per cent in February - the biggest ump for nearly three years. Their average annualised growth rate during the first three months of this year has been well over 8 per cent.

Yet headline consumer price inflation dipped, falling to 2.8 per cent from 2.9 per cent in February despite big increases in food and energy prices. The price level rose 0.4 per cent, and the "core" index, excluding food and energy, increased 0.3 per cent.

March's jump in food prices was the highest for more than a year. Bad weather has driven up grain and vegetable prices. A Florida freeze hit tomatoes, storms affected lettuce crops in the South West and lack of rain in the Mid-West means stocks of corn and wheat have fallen perilously low.

Similarly, the harsh winter has depleted oil stocks and sent prices to their highest level since the gulf war. The general level of food

prices paid by consumers increased 0.6 per cent during March, with fresh vegetables up

a dramatic 10 per cent during the month. Energy costs climbed 1.4 per cent.

People have taken a relativi view of these increases on the basis that they will be sbortlived." said Mark Cliffe, an economist at securities firm. HSBC Markets.

A Labor Department econ-omist, Patrick Jackman, said: "I don't think it will get out of

There were declines in some other prices, notably a 1.9 per cent drop in airline fares The market reaction to the buoyant retail sales was more

surprising in the light of Wall

Street's recent dives on the slightest concern about future inflationary pressure. A drop in the University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index between March and April contributed to yes-

ierday's calm. The index fell to 90.8 from 93.7 last month. Analysts said fears that the Federal Reserve would decide to raise key interest rates were receding. "The Fed would need more evidence of faster growth and an uptick in inflation before they act. My guess is that-

it will want to do nothing this year," said Brian Fabbri, an economist at Paribas Capital Markets on Wall Street. By mid-afternoon, the Dow Jones index was up 40.46 to

5.527.53, despite a sharp for in one of the biggest stocks, IBM. The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond bad gained a third of a point, taking its yield down to 6.84 per cent from 6.92 per cent.

#### Deutsche Telekom move on C&W confuses City Yang Xianzu, China's vicebidders for Mercury. Other Industriai Correspondent would-be suitors are said to in-

MARY FAGAN

The possible £35bn merger between BT and Cable & Wire-less was thrown into confusion vesterday following reports that Deutsche Telekom, Germany's state telecommunications company, has made unofficial contaci with C&W.

The German group moved to quash speculation that it plans to bid, saying that it is looking at a variety of ways of expand-

Deutsche Telekom's finance director, Joachim Kroeske, said that , while he did not rule out a bid for C&W, "I do not think a takeover of C&W by Telekom is necessarily the one that will happen. There are other possi-

His comments fuelled speculation that Deutsche is seriously considering the acquisi-tion of Mercury Communica-

tions, C&W's UK arm. Mercury is BT's big rival in the provision of telephony service in Britain and would have to be divested if the merger goes ahead. BT is thought to view Deutche as one of the preferred rival group.

clude AT&T of the US, Italy's Stet, and a consortium of UScontrolled cable companies.

City analysts believe that Deutsche has earmarked the UK as a priority but that the group would not bid alone. Deutsche has tailor-made partners in the form of France Telecom and Sprint of the US, which are already its allies in the Global One organisation. Shares in C&W rose 9p to

mours over potential suitors. Neither BT nor Cable, which have confirmed they are in talks that could lead to a merger, was willing to comment. At the same time the Chinese

government appeared to hint for the first time that it is concerned about an effective takeover of C&W, which is the majority shareholder in Hongkong Telecom. Without approval by the Chi-

nese authorities, any planned merger between the UK groups would be still-born as Hongkong Telecom is a key mo-tive in BT's desire to acquire the

minister for post and telecommunications, told delegates at a Hong Kong conference that be was concerned about the issue but refused to elaborate. He later said: "We do not bave much information about the matter on hand."

Under present discussions between the companies, the potential merger would take the form of a reverse takeover by C&W, Talks are being conducted largely by advisers, with NM Rothschild acting for BT and Goldman Sachs for C&W.

City sources say that the move has the tacit blessing of the UK Government. However, Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, recently took the unusual step of issuing a statement denying that any approval in principle had been given.

The merger, which could happen within weeks, would also be scrutinised by the in-dustry regulator. Oftel. Don Cruickshank, director general, has said he would be concerned to see Mercury taken over by a over by a strong management committed to competition.

# the group. This would lift Anglo's hold-

Bock's 18.4 per cent stake if he

The agreement is due to be exercised at the point of demerger. Anglo will buy Mr

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### Sega extends price war with Sony plans to cut the price. "It is not PlayStation console has sold nation's youth is threatening to

more than 3.7 million units

world-wide compared with Sega

European sales have topped

700,000 since its launch in Sep-

tember last year including 200,000 in the UK. Sony claims

world-wide revenues for the

PlayStation have passed \$2bn

and that it is a more successful

launch than the Sony Walkman.

Sony had already claimed

victory in the Christmas battle

wben it said it bad sold 35,000

units in December against Sal-

urn's 25,000. Sega had been

Saturn's figure of 3.5m.

NIGEL COPE

Sega is hoping to close the gap on its arch-rival Sony in the cutthroat computer games market by continuing a price-cutting war it claims has seen sales of its Sega Saturn consoles double

in the last few weeks. Sega cut the price of the Saturn by £50 to £249 at the beginning of this month, saying the promotion would last three weeks. However, the success of the campaign is tempting the company to continue the discount for as long as it takes to wrest the initiative from Sony's PlayStation, which is continuing to outsell the Saturn, according to new figures released yesterday. Sega declined to confirm

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The PlayStation is priced at £295 and Sony says it has no

than cut the price. Both comtives but are expected to pean Computer Trade show which starts at London's

cessary, given the current

level of demand." However.

Sony may be forced to reduce

its prices if it finds that Sega is

Another possibility is that it

clawing back market sbare.

will choose to give away free games with the consoles rather panies were coy on new initiaannounce plans at the Euro-Olympia on Sunday. The tit-fortat sniping is part of an in-creasingly bitter battle that has seen both companies engage in a marketing frenzy.

The stakes are huge in the computer games market, which is worth around £2hn a year world-wide. Figures released yesterday by Sony claim that its

Long Book

Ario Wiggins Apple 183.5 8.5 4.4

Price (s) Change (s) % Change

spending less on promoting its new launch while Sony had carmarked £20m to push the PlayStation. Both companies tend to dispute each other's figures as a matter of course. The fierce battle for the INTEREST RATES

hearts and pocket money of the unit next year. CURRENCIES

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2 bloi	260.80	+0.12	242.73	Sase Rate	25	6.00pc	6.75	_	

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The two generators

will not be allowed to

abuse their market

positions in the

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they would be

crazy to do so

south and east of

## Second chance to rethink the meaning of power

The fact that the Monopolies and Merg-ers Commission has approved the takeovers of Southern Electric and Midlands Electricity by National Power and PowerGen is no surprise. That much was COMMENT pretty well known before yesterday. The fact that it has chosen to wave the deals

through with only very limited conditions is more of a surprise. But neither this nor the synthetic rage of Labour, should deter the Trade Secretary Ian Lang from doing the correct thing and going along with the advice of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The MMC concluded that whilst the

mergers might operate against the public interest in some respects these were not sufficiently serious to warrant prohibition

and could in any case be overcome with binding undertakings.

The one dissecting voice on the MMC panel was that of Patricia Hodgson, the BBC's director of policy and planning, who submitted a minority report arguing that if the mergers were allowed it would mean higher prices and less competition. This is rich coming from an employee of

an organisation that does not have to compete for its income and which also enjoys what in MMC partanee would be called a "scale monopoly" in hroadcasting.

But let us pass over that and consider the

facts. The principal objection to the two mergers is that they would result in an unacceptable degree of vertical integration, was broken up on privatisation in 1990.

But the Government conceded the principle of vertical integration when it allowed the takeover of Manweb by Scottish Power to go ahead.

The boundaries have been further blurred by the prospect of Eastern Electricity, which is owned by Hanson, taking over power stations from National Power and PowerGen, which would make it the fourth-biggest generator in the country.

It has also been argued that allowing the deals would give National Power and PowerGen captive regional markets for their electricity, driving choice down and prices up, and increase their ability to rig prices in the electricity pool, the wholesale mar-ket for England and Wales.

But the two generators will not he allowed to abuse their market positions in the south and east of the country by the regulator of the industry, Professor Stephen Littlechild, and they would he crazy to do so since we are now less than two years away from the point when the country's 22 million domestic consumers will be able to dispense with their local supplier and shop around.

The undue influence they could exert in the pool will need careful watching but this is steadily being eroded by the arrival of competitors offering electricity from "mid-"

It is hard not to smile at the suggestion and its three other industrial that McDonnell Douglas is planning a 400-seater jet to compete with the Boeing France, Germany and Spain.

National Power and PowerGen have almost certainly overstated the efficiency gains they can make from combining gen-eration with distribution and supply and in any event what cost savings they could squeeze out would go to shareholders first and customers second.

But the overriding issue which Mr Lang has to address is what kind of structure he wants for the electricity industry as the domestic market prepares for liberalisation – a dozen regional electricity compa-nics happy to sit on their local monopolies, or a smaller group of well-capitalised inte-grated players who will bring more com-

peution into electricity supply. Vertical integration is not always the friend of the consumer but the manner in which the electricity industry was broken up in 1990 has not been an unalloyed success. This time around the Government has the chance to rectify that while putting in place the safeguards that will ensure the customer henefits.

A chance Airbus must not squander

distribute and supply electricity – the structure that existed before the industry distribute are that existed before the industry electricity. I merit generating plants – those power stations which generally set the overall pool that was obliged to take out newspaper advertisements last year reassuring the world that it was not about to exit from civil air-

craft production. Yes it can, and no it does not end there for the newly-appointed president of the Douglas Aircraft Corporation, Micbael Sears, promises that once its 400-seater is in the air it will turn its attention to huilding a super jumbo.

Now the scent of aviation fuel in the nostrils can do strange things to the sanest of executives so perhaps we should not dis-miss these ideas out of hand. But it is about as hard to conceive of

McDonnell Douglas finding the \$15bn it would take to build a super jumbo as it is to imagine it merging with Boeing -another of the ideas that did the rounds last

What is not in dispute, however is that McDonnell Douglas, number three in the world's jet building league, has turned the corner from basket case to serious con-

That makes it all the more imperative that the latest proposal to overhaul Airbus Industrie and turn it into a public limited company is not allowed to run out of steam.

The European aircraft consortium has made large strides in the last five years much to the benefit of British Aerospace and its three other industrial partners in

Indeed Airbus, once the whipping boy for everything that went wrong in BAe's commercial aircraft division, is now the reason that it is still in the air.

business

But the uniquely French way that Airbus is structured as a Groupement d'Interets Economique militates against efficiency and means that production is carved up, not according to who is most competitive but what shareholdings each

BAe began sub-contracting out its work share years ago and now at last the other partners are moving in its direction. The Germans have warned they will not fund new Airbus models unless it reconstitutes itself. More importantly, the French, for long the main stumbling block to change. have agreed that Airbus needs to change shape even if it means Aerospatiale losing work-share.

Edzard Reuter, the former Daimler Benz chairman, is due to report to the Airbus superviory board in May on what

struture it should adopt.
We have been here before. Six years ago Lord Sterling produced a "wise men's" report for the four government's recommending a complete overhaul of Airbus. Nothing happened.

On this occasion, however, there is concensus for the first time among the partners about what needs to be done. It is essential that the chance for change is not

### Clark shoes set to miss float deadline

**NIGEL COPE** 

C&J Clark, the privately owned shoe company, is facing a show-down with the group's family shareholders after admitting that it may miss the deadline which commits the company to

a stock market listing by 1998. Unveiling a 26 per cent increase in profits to £25m yesterday, Clark's chairman Roger Pedder cooceded a delay was possible though the commitment remained unchanged. We said the company had to be in the right shape and the market had to be right. There is no change to that aim, we are just undecided on the actual longer. The market is tough out

If Clark's does fail to meet the deadline it would need special approval from the family shareholders who still own 70 per cent of the shares. in the United States later this The family agreed to reject a year. £184m-takeover bid from Cla Berisford three years ago on condition that the company went public within five years.

The agreement was only

reached after family in-fighting erty disposal which will not that culminated in an emergency meeting at the group's head-

quarters in Street, Somerset. Mr Pedder has since established a shareholder council and hopes to secure any extension to the float deadline without family rows or a formal meeting. "I think it would now be worked out within the sharebolder body," Mr Pedder

Clark's has been struggling to re-structure itself in the face of a difficult and over-supplied UK footwear market.

The company has been cut-ting costs under its new chief executive, Tim Parker, who was recruited from Kenwood earlier this year. Further cuts are likely with some job losses expected. No store closures are planned. A trial children's store format will start in May and a new international store will be tested

creased by 26 per cent to £24.8m last year on sales up 5

Underlying profits from the core shoe operations were down sharply due to a tough market and serious disruption within UK manufacturing. US profits collapsed from £3.6m in 1994 to just £690,000 last year.

There have been a number senior management changes. Malcolm Cotton, the former managing director who teft last year, received £460,000 compensation for loss of office as well as a fee for consultancy work undertaken during

Two other directors, John Clothier and Patrick Farmer made a combined total of £700,000 from the exercise of share options before leaving the company. These issues are likely to increase tension with the family shareholders. On current trading, Mr

Pedder said the new year had started with sales up by 2.1 per cent on the same per 1995. But some factories are short of work, which could per cent to £721m. Profits were mean penalties for producing boosted by income from prop- helow capacity.



Showdown: Roger Pedder, chalrman, says the commitment to a listing is unchanged

### Big shareholders back £23m Newspaper Publishing cash call

**MAGNUS GRIMOND** 

Large shareholders in Newspaper Publishing, publisher of the Independent and Independent on Sunday, yesterday backed a £23m rights issue. Mirror Group, owner of the Daily Mirror and Daily Record, and Dr Tony O'Reilly's Inde-

agreed to support a rights issue by the group which will see their stakes increased to 46.4 per cent each and the Spanish group Promotora de Informaciones

(Prisa) diluted to 6.7 per ceot. The two main shareholders will see their stakes raised from around 43 per cent each now. Prisa, publishers of La Repubpendent Newspapers, have blica, which currently holds just

under 9 per cent of Newspaper Publishing, has indicated that it will not take up its rights.

Part of the new equity will re-place £14m of existing loans made to Newspaper Publishing by Mirror Group and Independent Newspapers, and the other £9m is new money, to be invested in the group's ongoing

They are taking up their cost reductions, other than seen last year which has been acrights on a oce-for-one basis at oewsprint, and improving revenue to companied by an improvement 31p a share. The rights issue will not be underwritten.

Newspaper Publishing cut its losses to £19.5m in the year to December from £50.8m in the previous 15-month period. Liam Healy, the group's chairman and chief executive of Independent Newspapers, said enues had significantly reduced the rate of losses.

"Since the refinancing of the company in May-June 1995, the quality newspaper market in the UK has remained very competitive. However, there has been some relaxation of the aggressive cover pricing policies remained largely unchanged. I other public institutions with

companied by an improvement in the company's circulation rev-

enues." Cover price increases in July and January "do not appear to have significantly affected the circulation of the Independent", he said. Year-on-year circulation figures for January

### Cable will put schools on-line 'before digital'

MATHEW HORSMAN Media Editor

Plans by cable operators to wire up every school in Britain are already well advanced, an industry spokesman said yesterday, while a plan by Rupert Murdoch to supply digital satellite dishes for use by institutions

could take years to develop. "We are actively deploying our links to schools and universities," Bob Frost, chief executive of the Cable Communications Association, said yesterday. "The structure is already there, while the alterna-tives such as digital satellite would require additional hard-

ware and software." Mr Frost, whose association represents Britain's cable opcrators, made his remarks in the wake of reports that Mr Murdoch had offered satellites for every school, in return for the ent's support over his planned introduction of digital satellite services in the UK.

"There's no question that we will have a functioning sys-tem connecting schools first." Mr Frost added. The cable industry is halfway through a £10bn-investment programme to roll out broadband cable services across the country.

The Government has been looking at ways of encouraging the growth of the information highway in the UK, and has been concentrating on connec-tions to schools. The Labour Party unveiled a controversial agreement with BT last year under which the telephone operator would connect schools and

fibre optic lines, in return for the freedom to broadcast entertainment services over its network.

The information highway, including connections to the Internet, so-called "distance learning", and other interactive services, is a high priority at Number 10, where Deputy Prime Minister Micbael Hes-

eltine has been taking a lead. Mr Heseltine met Mr Murdoch over lunch six weeks ago to discuss bow Mr Murdoch's News Corporation might belp develop a function "educational information highway" in the UK. Two weeks later, the Government introduced an amendment liberalising ownership restrictions on investments in domestic satellite services.

Cable and telephone lines now being installed in the UK are capable of supporting twoway communication of video, text and audio signals. Digital digitised and compressed, is also capable of interactivity, but there are presently no such services available in the UK.

According to satellite experts, a digital service would require new hardware in space, as well as extensive hardware and software on the ground.

Mr Murdoch's offer is believed to bave been limited to the supply of satellite dishes, leaving institutions and the Government to provide the additional hardware and software required.

Mr Murdoch's BSkyB is the dominant pay-TV player in the UK. The company has said it would introduce new digital services within the next two years.

### IN BRIEF

 Lloyd's names who are suing for damages and also those who have paid all their debts are to receive a better deal following improvements in the market's £2.8bn rescue package. This follogs Lloyd's first official confirmation yesterday that the reserving requirements for Equitas, the reinsurance vehicle central to the rescue, are less than the £1.9bn first estimated. The cut in the reserving requirements for Equitas relieves names of some of their financial burdeo, but Lloyd's said it was too early to say big the reduction was. With additional contributions from agents and brokers, Lloyd's is trying to raise the value of the rescue package to as much as £3.2bn.

• John Coleman, who was appointed chief executive of House of Fraser on Thursday, was the highest paid director at Ladbroke last year with total emoluments, including compensation for loss of office, more than doubling to £590,000. Mr Coleman also had rights on 350,000 options on Ladbroke shares extended to 12. Sentember this ways Associated to I adherence annual report Mr. September this year. According to Ladbroke's annual report Mr Coleman received £200,000 for his contribution to the sale of Terns Homecare by Ladbrokes last year, and £100,000 for loss

• Gammon Construction, the Hong Kong based construction company owned jointly by Trafaglar House and Jardine Pacific, is part of a 122 6m "lurnis part of a consortium which yesterday won a £132.6m "turn-key" contract to build a Light Rapid Transit system for Singa-pore. The pore. The contract has been awarded by Singapore's Land Transport Ambority and the other consortium members are Keppel Integrated Engineering and ABB Daimler-Benz Trans-

• Ford Motor will boost its stake in Japan's Mazda Motor Corporation from a quarter to a one-third share in a deal that Mazda bopes will gear it up to become the world's top automotive group. The move rightests an existing alliance between the world's Number Two cannaties and Japan's fifth biggest automobile manufacturer and active and Japan's fifth biggest automobile strategic ufacturer, and analysts said it could be raid more such strategic link-ups between U.S. and Japanese firms. Ford stressed it did not envisage big job cuts at Mazda. The Hiroshima-based company made losses for the last two business years and has forecast nil net profits for the year ended March 31 1996 which have yet to be announced. Japan's biggest car maker Toyota said similar like the same said similar like the sa ilar tak-ups could happen in other industries as Japanese firms internationalise.

SBC Warburg has bought from the Treasury 921.871 cumulative redeemable preference shares in Hyder, the company formed recently water. The formed recently from the merger of Swalec and Welsh Water. The competitive auction was organised by NM Rothschild. SBC War-burg said vesterday that the shares had been purchased for on-sale to institute. sale to institutional investors in the ordinary course of market

# Prospect the oil sector for riches

The surging price of oil to post-gulf war peaks this week has dragged many shares in the exploration and production sector to 52-week highs. The correlation between the two is usually close, but, as our graph shows, even af-ter a good ruo this year, the explorers have not benefited to the extent previous experience would suggest they should. Two factors help explain the apparent caution surrounding the sector.

Perhaps most important is the outlook for the oil price itself. Its recent surprising strength has been caused by a squeeze on world-wide stocks of oil caused by higher-than-expected demand as a result of severe winter weather in the Northern Hemisphere and a shortfall in forecast production from countries outside the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries cartel. That has resulted in the oil price soaring by more than a quarter since the start of the year, coming within sight of \$24 a barrel on Thursday, a price not seen for more than five years.

But analysts remain steadfastly bearish about the prospects for the price for the rest of 1996. The biggest sbadow darkening prospects is the return to the international oil market of Iraq, still locked out by the US and Britain for its part in the gulf war. If current talks with the UN prove successful, there could be a limited return of Iraqi supplies, leading eventually to its full restoration to the market.

Even without that threat, however, the consensus view is that the threat of oil supply exceeding production this year is likely to weigh on the price in the second half of 1996. A bounce-back in non-Opec production is expected to match the modest increase in world demand forecast for this year. With Opec production also expected to tise, even without Iraq, the outlook is for a substantial surplus developing during the course of 1996.

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY MAGNUS GRIMOND

The other problem for investors in the exploration sector is that, as our table shows, share prices have nearly all caught up with net asset values. After a disappointing five years, the past 12 months or so have been marked

by new signs of life in the sector. Bid activity lit up share prices last year and observers believe the cycle has not ended. Biggish foreign groups such as Statoil and Talisman, which snapped up Aran and Goal, showed there is a cootinuing interest in acquiring UK acreage. And with the majors geoerating plenty of cash, there is oo shortage of resources to back acquisilions. But even on fundamental grounds, the explorers have been increasing their own attractions. Lasmo

has drastically cut its operating costs over the past few years and the full potential of its hig Algerian find is not included in Kleinwort's oet asset figures. The Hassi Berkine fields could eventually contain double the 1.5 hillion reserves indicated. Even if such hopes prove optimistic, the prospects of a bid should underpin the share price. Its gas interests in Algeria and Indonesia could be highly attractive to a wellcapitalised group like Shell. One of the world's leading corporate natural gas producers, Shell is unrepresented in Algeria, one of the world's leading gas producing nations. The wild card is the potential for civil unrest there. Hardy Oil & Gas is another player

attracting interest now that John Walm-

Oil explorers have outperformed this year Jul Aug Sep Jan Feb Oct Nov Dec Company 220p .54p 308p 217p 187p Caim Energy
The Petroleum
Enterprise Oil
Hardy Oil & Gas
LASMO Source Kleinwort Benson Securities Monument'

sley, the respected former finance di-rector of Enterprise Oil, has taken the reins. The shares have responded to efforts by the oew team to give more focus to the rather sprawling group spun out of Trafalgar House. But there could he more to come if current

prospects live up to expectations. The results of a third appraisal well on the potentially big Bayu discovery in the Timor Sea are expected within the next few days. Estimates suggest the gas and condensate field could contain 1 billion barrels of oil equivalent.

Another group analysts are warming to is Cairn Energy, whose shares soared earlier this year on hopes for an interesting gas discovery in Bangladesh. The preliminary results announcement oo Thursday is expected to bring news of an appraisal well being completed on the Sangu field. If that hrings further evidence of a substantial gas find, there could be further significant upside potential in the shares. Apart from the massive latent market of 110 million people in Bangladesh, there is also the prospect of tapping into the nearby Indian market. Such considerations could attract the attention of predators like Occidental or British Gas, keen to establish a presence there.

More speculatively, sbares in British Borneo Petroleum have leapt this year, fired by optimism surrounding its deal to develop Shell's Morpeth field in the Gulf of Mexico.

Much of this is "blue sky" potential, however, as the SeaStar tension leg production platform to be used is untried as yet and the field would be marginal using traditional methods.

So after the recent rerating, much of the exploration sector has caught up with events. Given that and the rather cloudy outlook for oil prices this year, stocks should not generally be chased higher. Even so, careful selection by investors could still reap rewards.

### **Takeover Panel** raps BET

MAGNUS GRIMOND

The Takeover Panel yesterday publicly rapped BET for mis-leading investors in a statement rejecting the higher bid for the group announced by Rentokil on Thursday. Indicating the seriousness with which it viewed the matter, the City watchdog issued a rare public reprimand criticising BET for not making a valid comparison between its share price and the value of the oew offer. The announcement from

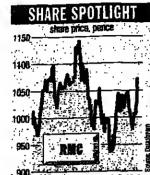
BET on Thursday valued Rentokil's revised offer at 209.8p a sbare, excluding a promised dividend of 4p, and claimed that it represented an increase of just 1.1 percent over the previous night's ctosing price. The Pan-el executive said it was "not satisfied that this was a valid comparison to have made because an offer value ex the BET dividend was compared with a BET share price which was cum all future dividends. BET has already forecast a final dividend of 3.7p for last year, which is deemed to be included in its share price.

Had the comparison been made between Rentokil's increased offer and BET's share price prior to the the announcement of the new offer the increase would have been 3.01 per cent, the Panel said. It called on BET not to make further comparisons based on the value of Rentokil's increased offer excluding the BET divi-

# Tory defeat concentrates market minds on takeovers

FT-SE 100 3766.8 +22.6 FT-SE 250 4408.0 +17.5 FT-SE 350 1897.9+10.5

SEAO VOLUME 942.8m shares, 33,988 bargains Gifts Index n/a



The Tory by election disaster companies which still comsent shares charging ahead.

With John Major's majority down to one and a minority Government looming, the stock market took the view that predators could be rushed into early action.

The attitude of any Labour government to a takeover feast is, at best, untested. So the need to get deals done and dusted before any election had, following the Staffordshire South result, become even more pressing.

The takeover fever was encouraged by what appeared to be a leak of Whitehall's intention to clear PowerGen's bid for Midland Electricity and National Power's offer for Southern Electric.

PG surged 13.5p to 562.5p and NP 14p to 492p The targets also responded with Midland up 7p at 405p and Southern 21p at 839p.

mand their own destiny anticipated what is now regarded as inevitable bid action.

US power groups are favourite to strike although continental operations lurk. Against such a background East Midlands jumped 34p to 658p; London 10p to 809p and

Yorkshire 15p to 898p. Even debt laden Northern Electric rose 21p to 679p. Waters were also flushed into action. Speculation the proposed bids will be cleared ifted South West Water 18p to

Ladbroke was back in the frame. In brisk trading the shares edged forward 1.5p to 183.5p with a deal with Hilton Hotels Corporation of the US now the market's favourite option. Whether such an alliance would lead to a bid is, however, unclear.

Cable & Wireless gained 9p to 535p as the Germans

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

Stock market reporter of the year . .

expressed interest. In off-thecuff comments at a Frankfurt dinner Joachim Kroeske, finance director of Deutsche Telekom, let slip the German group had more than a passing interest in Cable. The Germans bave been

canvassed as a potential buyer of Cable's Mercury telephone off-shoot but this is the first time they have let it be known that an outright bid is a possibility. The election result also encouraged suggestions of more economic relaxations. The Tories will, no doubt, redouble their efforts to keep the economy moving ahead and the key

part of any election campaign

announced in the Budget, delivered in April. There are also signs the feel-good factor is seeping into the market, prompting many consumer shares to an enjoyable session.

Building and related shares remained to the fore although RMC, the best performing blue chip with a 47p gain to 1.069p. owed at least some of its exuberance to figures, due next week. Around £321m against £283.3m is expected despite the problems encountered by the group's German interests. With the long mooted housing recovery seemingly materialis-ing Barratt Developments, up

Kingfisher headed the retail advance with a 19p gain to 602p; Dixons was not far behind, up 13p at 485p and Next improved 15p to 553p.

Royal Bank of Scotland shaded 3p to 501p despite builish comments from NatWest Securities. The shares have underperformed as takeover speculation has diminished and worries surfaced about the performance of the Direct Line insurance offshoot. NatWest point out it downgraded for this year from £658m to £618m. But Royal Bank's premium to the sector. say NatWest, is now "very modest and, given the medium term scope for upside surprises on profits, the shares are looking more attractive".

Matthew Clark, reflecting the Credit Lyonnais Laing support, gained a further 16.5p to 761p and MFL, the furniture stores chain, continued to bask 8p gain to 180p.

gaining 45p to 898p.

ment with Anglo American, the South African mining giant,

£4.5m likely; next year there should be a £10m profit.

recommendation with a further

Micro Focus, the software house, continued to attract support, mainly American, Lonran slipped 5.5p to 207.5p as the closer involve-

was judged as reducing the chance of a bid. RTZ, ferrying analysts to Portugal next week, put on 21p to 994p and the strength of the crude oil price continued to influence British Petroleum, hitting 598p, up 6.5p to 598p. Shell added 13p to 884p and Lasmo 6p to 188p. VideoLogic the chip maker

was little changed at 66p. Charles Stanley, the stockbro-ker, says the market is only beginning to appreciate the company's world leadership in multimedia chips. It expects losses to continue this year with

British Biotech slipped 8p to 2,365p as SBC Warburg

TAKING STOCK

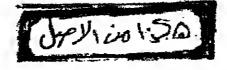
placed 1.5 million shares at around 2,200p with an unidentified institution. The shares were put up for sale by a Japanese pharmacentical

A key presentation on Biotech's cancer drug is due next month. The shares have looked a little unsure this month as some investors have locked in their profits. A year ago the shares were down to 462p. ...

Queens Moat Houses, the battered hotel group, contin-nes to dely analysts. Most say the shares are overvalued yet they are hitting new highs, climbing 0.5p to 25.25p, a closing peak since last year's restructuring, in busy trading. The suspicion lingers that corporate activity could be inspired by the upturn in the hotels market.

9p at 271p and Beazer, 12p at 201p, led housebuilders. The remaining electricity will be tax cuts, on present form in a Kleinwort Benson Prices are in starting except where stated. The yield is lest year's dividend, grossethy) to 20 per cert, so a percentage of the shere price. The price/sernings (P/E) ratio is the shere price of the shere price divided by lest year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional liams.

Other details: xr Ex rights xr Ex-chridand as Ex all u Unitsted Securities Market a Suspende pp Parity Paid pm NII Paid Shares. The independent index The index allows you to eccess real-time share prices by phone from Seaq. Simply dial 0891 123 335, followed by the 4-digit code printed next to each share. To access the financial reports dial 0891 1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below. FT-SE 100 - Reel-time 00 Sterling Rates 04
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UK Company News 02 Wall St Report 20
Tokyo Market 21 myone with a tone-del telephone can use this service. For a detailed description of The dependent index, including its portfolio facility, is assistance, call our helpline 0171 873 4375 (230sm - 530pm Calls cost 30p per minute (cheep rate), and 40p at all other times. Call charg ### 30 Service AC ### 30 Service AC ## 3 TORIETTON OF THE BEST OF THE PROPERTY OF THE P 



weds in the 1900 Mores off Yelliam. . zav. ) - -The Target Pillers ....

**acretary** 

CRICKET'S SELECTION ELECTION: By throwing headline-making names into the field, the counties have drawn the spotlight away from their own responsibilities in developing players, argues Graeme Wright

# Botham or Bolus? A poll that does not matter

hen it comes to elections, you have to hand it to the Americans: they make a show of it. Bands, badges and bandwagons, and that's only the Pri-maries. The Test and County Cricket Board goes about its elections in a much more English way - too much secrecy and too many leaks. When Ray Illingworth defeated M J K Smith in a postal ballot in March 1994, for example, oo voting figures were giv-en. Indeed, it would have come as no surprise had waiting journalists been kept outside the Grace Gate until a Vatican style puff of smoke emerged from the cathedral of cricket.

With the forthcoming election of selectors, of course, we've already had the smoke by way of a smnkescreen: a bonfire of vanities, so to speak. By putting up an unprece-dented number of candidates, the counties have effectively - intencountes have enectively - inten-tionally in unintentionally - chinded the most important issue. This is that Eraland's cricketers have been poorly equipped (with the exception of sponsors' dogtags) to complete in international cricket. And Illing-worth, the man who has understood worth, the man whn has understood this all along, is the mao under attack by some of the counties.

The players work hard enough running round the ground," he said when he was appointed chairman, "but not hard enough at the basics of cricket." Perhaps the chairman has been getting too close to home truths for the liking of some counties.

The time for getting back to basics is not a few days before a Test match, as Illingworth should have been wise enough to know with re-gard to Devon Makcolm in South Africa. The right time is when the players are with their counties. Indeed, getting the basics right is the counties' responsibility, and that means employing first-class coaches who understand the mental and technical demands of the modern game. The modern international game, that is: not the modern county game.

Unfortunately, when you utter words like technical and technique, people go rather glassy. On a sports programme recently, the panel was advised not to get too technical lest the listeners wouldn't understand in which case they'd do a double turnoff. Yet technique is an important part

of most sports and essential in cricket. Last may, for example, covering Surrey match for our Sunday paper, I remarked on Alec Stewart's uncertainty when playing on the front foot. Having had consecutive winters in the West Indies and Australia, he looked every inch a Test cricketer on the hack foot, but worryingly vulnerable when bowlers drew him forward.

That weakness was still obvious during the winter in South Africa, where accurate, iotelligeot scam bowling always sought to exploit it. This was something his Surrey employers should have sorted out, but the county appeared more occupied with business off the field than oo it.

headline-making names as Ian Botham and Graham Gooch into the field In today's world, however, it is personalities and "issues" that sell sports

IN CAPLING PROMERSION

L Chebes v Leots
2 Covently v 1978
3 Marichester City v Shefreat Wed
4 Middlesbrough v Wimbledon
5 Northempton v Manchester Util
2 Southempton v Manchester Util
2 Mass. Hard v Botton
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3 Mass. Hard v Botton

EIGHTSOME REEL: CONTENDERS AND PRETENDERS FOR A THANKLESS TASK Candidate In His Own Words The Hy Factor

Unavailable for comment

we stand for the same thing'

is age and time availability

Unavailable for comment.

Forget all the trivia about pitches, from the game should be in length of time, covering etc. Let's get on with playing attractive, entertaining cricket

"I would love to serve on the selection panel be-cause the big challenge now is to find a team and to make it turn England into a world power again. I would have no problem working with filly. Basically

I'm honoured Kent should went to nominate me

I hadn't thought of standing, but I'm excited at the prospect. The thing I suppose I've got in my favour.

'My heart and soul was with England when I played and was captain. Selection should represent a cross section of people in the game'

I apologise for any distress this decision may have

caused. It has always been my wish to serve the game to the best of my ability and I shall contin-ue to do this in the future" - after he was told to

pull out of the running for the chairman of selec-

tors job by the Professional Cricketers Association.

I feet we need to be positive about things. You can't sit by and see the English game falling down?

who he works for as Secretary

Considerable potential for conflict

Significant pluses and minuses

Unlikely to be a factor

Potential for conflict

Mingworth has made it clear that he thinks full-time

playing is probably incompatible with the job of a selector. At 35, Barnett is also the youngest can-

didate, an attribute Illy may regard as provocative

There are only a couple of candidates thy really wants,

and Bolus, former selector, non boat-rocker, is one of them. However, being a fayoured candidate may

actually lessen his appeal with counties already un-happy with illingworth's efforts

Limitless potential for strife...or perhaps success

In 1995 Botham described 'Raymond 'Pontius Pi-

late" Illingworth' as 'a whinger not a motivator'. Illy

who regards outspokenness as his prerogative, is unified to welcome another free speaker to the team. Botham says he thinks the two can work together. He would

Cowdrey has sone out of his way to emphasise the

spare time he has to watch a lot of cricket, which

would suit litingworth; a relatively non-controversial

figure which would suit him more. His 'southern-

Believed to be Illingworth's other choice, which may

count against him with some counties. On the oth-

er hand Ednich's previous experience as a selec-

tor may give him delusions of knowledge which may-

Like Barnett, Goodh's playing commitments are un-likely to endear him to litingworth. Nor will his friend-

ship with Ian Botham: Then again, Gooch's reputation as a miserable man from Essex might

Graveney's abortive challenge for tily's job as chair-

man of selectors brought a typically barbed response

from the incumbent. Despite his current status as

selector the relationship is bound to be caustic

Mitter has no history of contentious behaviour, but

lly may feel that he's better off with older estab-

ness' and age may count against him

rankle with the chalman of selectors

just appeal to a miserable Yorkshireman

Virtually guaranteed to be explosive

if renewed by the counties

lished veterans around him:

Difficult to predict

Like Bolus, could work both ways

Kim Barnett Age: 35 County: Derbyshire ality: Opening bassman, leg-spin bowler ninated by: Derbyshire International experience: 4 Testa Professions Cricketer tments: Full-time player Notes: Banned from Test cricket after rebel South Africa tour

Brian Bolus Age: 62 Counties: Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire ciality: Opening bat, former selector Nominated by: Nottingnamshire

International Experience: 7 Tests Profession: Retired civil servent nitments: Some after-dinner speaking -Notes: Believed to be one of two fevoured by Rey Hangworth. mec TSB Bolos (the man who likes to say 'yes') ...

lan Botham Age: 40 Counties: So Speciality: All-rounder nerset, Waroestershire, Durham ninated by: Derbyshire, Northemotonshire mermational experience: 102 Tests (tormer England captain)

Profession: TV personality
Commitments: Sky TV commentator, A Question of Sport,
Daily Mirror columnist, charity work Nickname: Beety . Chris Cowdrey

Age: 36 Counties: Kent, Glemorgan Speciality: All-rounder Nombrated by: Kent . . International experience: 6 Tests (former England capta Professions Owns a public speaking tusiness called The Great Delivery Company; does PR work for Laddrokes Commitments: Depends on how willing and able he is to give up other roles. Ukely to be able devote a lot of time.

John Edrich Age: 58 . County: Surrey clatity: Opening bat ominated by: Surrey sternational experience: 77 Tests ssion: Corporate entertaining

ments: Entertaining corporately lotes: Believed to be one of two favoured by Ray Hingworth. Graham Gooch Age: 42 County: Essex

peciality. Opening bet, medium-paced bowler ational experience: 113 Tests (former England captin) Profession: Cricketer Commitments: Full-time player Notice: Captain of rebel tour to South Africa 1982, benned from lest endest for three years: Michaemes: Zap, Goodhie

David Graveney Age: 43. Counties: Gloucestershire, Somerset, Durham Speciality: Left-arm spinner Nominated by: Gloucestarshire International experience: None Profession: Secretary of the Professional Players Union, Curren

timents: Already does the job. erness Gravity, Grav Geoff Miller Age: 43 Countles: Derhystere, Essex . Speciality: All-rounder Hougheted by: Hempehine

entse Not too heavy.

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

and oewspapers. By throwing such their own shortcomings as the whether "Illy" can live with "Beefy". The Tories should be pounding a

ago, high on his agenda was winning

When Illingworth was appointed it attractively, but he did it effective the chairman of selectors two years tively, and no one worried whether he smiled or not. Yet if the counhack the Ashes, something he ties have their way, England could them for the smokescreen. achieved as England's captain in go into next year's Ashes series in

Compiled by Mick Harris.

There are five spaces on the panel who select the England team. The chairman (Ray Illingworth), the team captain (almost certainly Mike Atherton) and the team coach (David Lloyd) automatically

quality. The other two positions on the panel are voted for annually. The 18 first-class counties have two votes each, as do MCC and the Minor Counties, making a total of

40 votes. When the TCCB were asked for a job description, a spokesman said: "There isn't a job description. It's not a job as such." The position is unpaid.

There is no written list of official duties, but Ray Illingworth has recommended the following: Selectors must watch 90 days of cricket a year. Selectors must be able to attend 10-plus necessary meetings. Selectors must not have any

media work, which would clash with impartial duties of a selector. concentrating more nn his own back than, say, Stewart's front foot. All the kerfuffle over Illingworth's countenance - likewise Mike Ather-

ton's - is also a red herring. There's something, inhereotly Protestant in the seemingly dour way they reduce the game to their own level, instead of raising their sights to the level of the spirit of cricket exemplified by Sri Lanka in the World Cup. It's a national characteristic.

So what about this eight-man exercise in democracy that comes to a head this week? Does it matter which two get the votes of the counties and MCC to jnin Illingworth. David Lloyd, the new coach, and Atherton, assuming he is captain, on the selection committee. No, oot in the short term. It's oot as if the selectors are spoilt for choice when picking the England team, even if they do manage the occa-sional baffing selection. What it might indicate, however, is how the counties view the long-term ambi-tions of men like Botham, Gooch and David Graveney - should we be told how the voting went.

What it might also show is just how much, or how little, the county managements know about the game. as opposed to the business, of cricket, They affered some evidence of this in 1993 when, after only one season, they abandoned the 50-over format in the Sunday League. True, it was initially foolish to choose the one competition that has the full fury of a County Championship match raging either side of it. But if the counties were serious about England's prospects in the World Cup. surely one of the three limitedovers competitions could have been

played under World Cup rules? This season the Benson and Hedges Cup will be played over 50 overs. But it's a little late. The borses have lnng bolted and you can't see

editor of Wisden

Graeme Wright is a former

#### vant contest, the counties have clev- land's poor showing in South Africa erly drawn the spotlight away from and in the World Cup, but often.

providers of England's Test cricketers. Immediately, the most important isfor what is, in effect, a pretty irrele- sue in the media became not Eng-

scion. After driner speaker, part-time cricket coach at Tren

path to the county grounds for lessons in spin-doctoring - not that spin is on the county agenda all that

Australia in 1970-71. He didn't do complete disarray, with Illingworth

11 . 1

TODAY Football Matches not on pools coupons: 3.0 unless stated

FA UNIBRO TROPHY SEMI-FINALS FIRST LEG

KDS LEMBUE Premier Division: Behop's Stort-fod v Carshaton; Chertsey v Hitchn; Dulwich v Yeovit: Enfield v Kingstonian; Hoyes v Bore-tem Wood; Hendon v Aylesbury; Purliect v Har-

WIBDAID LEAGUE Prevaler Division: Bamber Bridge v Spennymoor; Behboo Auckland v Smisy; Buston v Blyth Spargars; Frickley v Colleyn Bay; Gairsborough v Boston Und; Gusseley v Barrow; Leek v Knowledy; Matilock v Accington Startley; Winstord v Droylsden. First Division: Affend Ltd v Leigh; Affendon LR v Warngdon; Bardford Park, Ausnue v Netherleid; Cangleton v Harrogate Town; Reishood v Lincoln Ltd; Grant Harwood v Caugh and Astron; Greens v Faralay Celtic: Lancater v Essewood Town; Raddiffe Borough v Statiety Bay.

Vester Bay.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Vymolaer Divisions.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Vymolaer Divisions.

Beastone v Hassings; Beldock v Gloucester; Dreimstord v Marriye Tydft; Chebartham v Suday fown; Cossley v Stesford; Dorchester v Burbor; Gresley v Salsbyr; Halesowen Town v Cornoldge City; Weeston v Goverserot; Rushean & Dorannoris v Masport AFC; Wordester v VS Burge, Middlend Distalors Bridgeroth v Cornoldge City; Seeston v Paget Rengers; Dudley v Belstons Town v Paget Rengers; Dudley v Belstons; Vendey Town v Stourbridge; King a Lynn v Nurseton; Leicenber Und v Rothwelt; Roong Cite Warset v Town v Stourbridge (Sing a Lynn v Nurseton; Leicenber Und v Rothwelt; Roong Cite Warset v Town v Haston; Reddicth v Bedworth; Soffault Borough v Billston; Green, Southern Division; Griderior v Ashirott; Porest Streen v Valor, Peter v Hassen; Forest Green Roon; Towhickge v Weston-Super-Nore.

Fleet v Standbourne; Pode v Margon; Tomout; Watterloombe v Nesport Bridge v Greek Green Roon; Towhickge v Weston-Super-Nore.

Weston-Super-Nore.

West-super-kere.
Withstroke.Exb KSRT LEigere First Dission:
Backerharn v Withstable; Coordman v Sheppey; Croclenhill v Canterbury City; Fewerharn
v Deat Gresninch Borough v Thurnesmead;
Hyme v Herne Bay; Slade Green v Follestone
linica.

Hinter Vierne Beyr, Sade Green v Folkestone Hinter.

IMENET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Divisions Atundel v Mile Ook: Heistram v Port-telt; Hassocie v Whitehands; Horsham VMCA. v Pagram; Larguey Sports v Oelsvelod; Ringmer v Burgese Hei; Wick v Storeham.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pre-miler Division: Belger v Stocksonder: Derne-by v Antispre Weiser, Hardled: Main v Jefriet; Historia v Goole; Laersedge v Glass-Augienn Nellaer; North Frauly v Osest Town; Shellad v Brigg Theckiey v Antist.

North West Goldenses League First Division: Blackood Rovers v Moseley; Bootle v Challeng, Daven v Eastwood Hamby; Rider Book v Grasso; Meste Road v Italiant; Pendry Selenger; Shellad v Rings Heider Story v Prescot.

Chilage Cap annual-first second leaf, Pic-ton (I) v Reucastic Town (I); Hollar Old Boys (I) v Burscogh (3).

SECOND DIVISION 48 Brentford & Notes County ... JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Divialon: Claction v Sofram; Cornerd v Febrstowe: Des v Woodbridge; Halstead v Febrsherr; Sud-bury Town v Hadlegh; Sudbury Wanderers v Greet Yarmouti; Tiptnee v Newmarket; Wat-

Stowmarket.

WERLINK EKPRESS MEDIAND ALLIANCE:
Barwell v Haleaowen Hamiers; Bolehall Swifts
v Rocester; Krypersky victoria v Boldmare Sr
Africhaels; Pershore v Chesetown; Rushall
Olympic v West Mideniak Police; Sandwell Borough v Shepshed Dynamo; Stapenhil v
Hinckley Athletic; Strafford v Shimal; Willenhall v Oldbury.

Hinckley Athletic; Stratout v Sraina; wieterhalf v Gibbury.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier Divisions.
Bideford v Mangotsfied; andport v Brisingtion; Credition v Caine; Taurson v Backwelt;
Tomngon v Pautton Rovers; Oud Down v Bristo
to Mannor Farm; Barnstaple v Twerton; Westbury v Brisone.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN
LEAGUE Flast Divisions Billingham Synthonie v RTM Newcastie; Crester-le- Straet v Seaham Red Star; Consett v Shidon; Durham v
Cusborough; Fennál v Tow Law, Murton v Durston; Peteriee v Eppleton; West Auchland v
Cuolc; Whusham v Bedfington Ternes; Whrily v Stockfor.

HEREWARD UNITED COUNTRES LEAGUE Pre-mier Division: Desborough v Kempston; Long HERIEMARD UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Pre-mier Division: Desborough v Kernpson; Long Buckby v Boston Town; Northampton Spancer v Mirriess Blackstone; Potton v Bourne; Raunds v Wellinghorough; St Neots v Cogen-toe; Spalding v Spotlod; Stamford v Eynes-bury; Wootton v Holbeach.

WEISH CUP Semi final second legs: Cwm-bran (0) v Barry (1) (2.30); Liansantifreid (1) v inter Cardiff (0) (2.30). v inter caront (U) (2,54).

LEASUE OF WALES, Afan Lido v Porthmodog.
Caerser v Flint; Connah's Quey v Newtown;
Ebbw Vale v Corwy, Hotywell v Cerness Bay,
Llanellt v Rhyl; Ton Pentre v Caernarion. LIBRORY V KITH, TON PETER V CORMAND. LEAGUE:
PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE:
Buckle Thistife v Fraserburgh: Eign v Deveronvale; Forres Mechanics v Kerth; Fort
William v Peterhead; Huntify v Wick Academy;
Lossemouth v Brora Rangers; Rothes v Cove
Rangers. BASS IRISH CUP Semi-final: Gleravon v Por-zadown (at The Oval, BellesU.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND Pro lens Stigo Rovers v Sharrrock Rovers AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First

PHRST-CLASS MATCH (First day of three): The Parker Oxford University v Lengestershire (11.30).

1 mid Drivston
28 Barnet + Hardspool
27 Sury - Vostage
28 Carriering - Im + Doncaster
29 Chester v Rochdale
20 Calciester v Rochdale
20 Calciester v Rochdale 32 - Gillingham v Eisebo 32 - Hareford v Leybin Orient 33 - Lincoln v Marefield 34 - Plymouth v Scarborough 35 - Presson v Northernolan 36 - Scunthorpe v Cardiff 37 - Wiggin v Desirigion CH YOUDHALL CONFERENCE 38 Dover v Altrichem Greenkeet v Wolding Rugby League

STONES SUPER LEAGUE: Olchem v Leeds (6.0); Pers v Workington (7.0). **Rughy Union** 

Rughy Union

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP National
League Que: Bristol v Leosster (2.15); Harlequits v Gloucester (3.01); Sale v West Hardepool (3.0); Surcens v Barth (3.0); Wasps v
Orrel (3.0); National League Two: Bedford
v Moseley (3.0); Blackheath v London Insti
(3.0); Newbassie Gostori v Lordon Scottshi
(3.0); Northampton v Westerloo (3.0); Westerfield v Northampton (3.0); National League
Three: Hartogate v Reading (3.0); Coley v Morley (3.0); Richmond v Rosslyn Park (3.0);
Rotherman v Fykie (3.0); Rughy v Coverny
(3.0); National League Four Appatra v Leads
(3.0); Exerts v Coffon (3.0); Havent v Walsal
(3.0); Livespool St Helers v London Welsh (3.0);
SWALEC CUP Sead-finals: Lienelf v Pontypriod (1.30) (at Bridgend); Neath v Newport
(3.15) (at Cardiff).
HEINEKEN WELSH LEAGUE First Division:

HEINEXEN WELSH LEAGUE First Division: Swarese v Cardiff (2.30). Second Division: Abercynon v Lisnforan (2.30); Bonymeen v Caerphiliy (2.30); Durvant v Liandovery (2.30).

(2.30).
SRU TENNENTS 1556 BOWI, First round:
Abordeen GSPP v Hitheod/Jorden Hall (3.0).
INSURANCE CORPORATION IRISH LEAGUE
First Division: Bellymera v Young Munster (2.30); Instonians v Sharmon (2.30); Old Wes-ley v Cerk Constitution (2.30); St Meny's Co-lega v Lansdowne (2.30); Second Division Contart v Majorie (2.30); Second Division Contart v Majorie (2.30); Grystones v Dur-gomon (2.30); NFC v Old Crescert (2.30); Terenure College v Dolphin (2.30); Wender-ers v Bactile Rangers (2.30). ers v Bachke Rangers (2.30).

CLUB MATCHES: Askaans v Newbury (3.0);
Barking v Charlton Park (3.0); Beny Hál v Gordon League (3.0); Cheftenham v Barnstapte (3.0); Erbbu Valde v Durwari (2.30); High Myoombe v Sudbury (3.0); Loripéde v Hentey (3.0); Maastag v Newbridge (2.30); Hunaeton v Towcestrams (3.0); Pontypool v Bridgend (2.30); Sobse v Heiter (3.0); Wennington Park v Writtehurch (3.0).

Hockey ABBEY NATIONAL WOMEN'S CHALLENGE Great Battain v Netherlands (3.15) (or Milton

NATIONAL INTER-LEAGUE TOLENAMENT: Wattowal, uncer-sensor (Outermann): Hampsteed & Westmirstery (psych (5.0); Or-ford Hawts v Harborne (10.50); Weston-su-per-Mare v Branley (12.40); Wattrigton v Lewes (5.30) for Million Reynes).

Brisini Rovers v Blacipooj 39 Nednestord v Degenhem THIRD DIVISSOR

13: Burnley v Reterborough Kittering v Morecambe 54 Brechn v Livingson 55 Dejectorian Thirds v Coadenbeach 20 Chesterided v Bristol (Dv Scotlenbeach 20 Chesterided v Bristo 56 East String v Alban Rovers 57 Queen's Park v Arbreath 58 Ross County v Alban SELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
40 Aberdeen v Homerwell
41 Primerrock v Falkirk TA CARLINE PREME Newcasde v Aston Villa (4.0)...

WOMEN'S MEDIAND Premier: Bedford v Bal-sam Leicester, Crimon Remblers v Tamworth; Hampton-in-Arden v Kegering, Pickwick v Pev-

WOMEN'S NORTH First Divisions Blackburn v Don Valley, Poynton v Shafflett, Liverpool v Cartale; York v Newcastle.

WOMEN'S SOUTH First Division: Hendon v Camberley, West Wilney v Harmstead & West-minster, Winchesterv Dulwich, Winchmore Hill v Southempterr, Worthing v City of Portsmouth.

BUDWEISER CHAMPIONSHEP PLAY-OFFS Quarter-flowis first leg: Derby Storm v Brimington Bulless (8.0); Manchester Giants v Leobards (7.30); Thames Valley Tigers v Lon-don Towers (8.0); Worthing Seas v Sheffield Sharks (8.0).

PREMIER LEAGUE: Bradford v Eveter, Cover-try v Hult; Cradley Heath & Stoke v Oxford; East-bourne v Landon; Swindon v Belle Yue.

ATHLETICS: Buce International Road Races

BOWLS: English Men's Indoor Championships

(Melton Mowisay). SCOTING: Professional promotion (Everton

Park Sports Centre, Liverpool; WBO wel-ternegry order E Loughvan (N Int, holder) v J Lippez (Mex); WBO sweeps toter P Wer (Sco) v J Matiale (SA, holder); WBO sizer continental

va water ist, noted, who wer-comments apper middeneight the fearance Program of Wagn Engle v S Wison (Scot). Professional promotion (Mythonshame Porum, Manchester): Brisin tign-middeneight there E Bangham (Engl. Roder) v G Logan (Engl.

ADO: British Championships (Burningham).

SNOOKER: European League (Dromond Cen-

Speedway

7.30 unless stated

Other sports

ERIOSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION PRIST DIVISION ALHO MINOSCREENS SHEELD 48 St Jehrstone v Dundee Und SECOND DIVERSOR
49 Berviolk V montause
50 Clyde v East file
50 Clyde v Steamer
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50 Clyde of Steamer
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BELL'S SCOTTER LENGUE

PREMIER OVERON Hibertan y Celic (1,45)

Wölden's National, (EAGUE Premier Division: Bradnel v Chion (2.0); Donoster v Hightown (12.30); Ipswich v Baltam Leicester (12.0); Sough v Simto Canada Life (2.0). First Division: Bradford Swithenbark v Exmouth (1.45); Chehmstord v Wirmbledon (1.0); Sunderland Bedans v Bueharta (12.30); Thoians v Carriertury (1.30). Second Division: Eding v Residing (2.0); Loughtonugh Students v Otton (2.30); Shawood v Woling (12.0); St. Albans v Aldridge (1.30).
WOMEN'S WEST Premier: Colveil v Rediend: Wirmborne Wayfarens v Leoninster; Chelman's Boursemouth; East Gloudester v St. Austell (all of Beggar Buch, Céthori).
WOMEN'S MEDIAND Premier: Bedford v Bel-women. BEAZER HOMES LEASUE Southern Dhisio Cinderfort v Braintree (11.30). UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE Pirst Di-vision: Starned v Peacehaven (3.0). LEAGUE OF WALES: Ebby Vale v Briton Fe BORD GAIS LEASUE OF IRELAND Premie

Cricket PIRST-CLASS MATCH (Second day of three): The Parks: Oxford University v Lalcastershire (11.30).

Rugby League

Rugby League
STONES SUPER LEAGUE: Castleford v Wigen
(6.0); Sheffield v London (6.0); St Kelens v
Bratford (3.0); First Division: Developy v Hui
(3.0); Hurkersteid v Keighley (3.30); Rochdele
v Berley (3.0); Whitchaven v Sarford (3.30);
Widnes v Freetherstone (3.0). Second Divielon: Branisy v Chockey (5.0); Hulk Kingston
Rosers v Prescot (2.0); Hurslet v Leigh (3.30);
Swinton v Doncester (6.30); York v Carliste
(3.15). Rugby Union

SURREY COUNTY CUP Final: Sutton & Ep-som v Ester (3.0) (at Old Siles, Motspur Perk). American football WORLD LEAGUE: London Monarchs v Scot

tish Claymores (3.0) (at White Hart Lane, Tot-Hockey NATIONAL INTER LEAGUE TOURNAMENT: Hartome v Westert-Super-Mare (11.0): Lewis v Ipoweh (1.0); Warmigton v Hampstead & Westminster (3.0); Bromley v Oxford Hawks (5.0) (at Million Keynes).

BRITISH UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP Social fines (3.30) (at Mildenhall).

Other sports BOWLS: English Men's Indoor Championships MOTOR RACING: British Formula Three Championship (Thruston). SNOOKER: European League (Diamond Cen-

### Three-pronged attack in quest for credibility It has been talked of as a make Nick Halling on this nr break season, and while that

assessmeot may be simplistic, there is much at stake when the World League of American Football resumes this weekend. The six-team league, with franchises in London, Scotland, Desseidorf, Frankfurt, Bar-

celona and Amsterdam, is a joint venture between the NFL, and Fox Sports, Rupert Murdoch's US-based broadcasting arm. Originally launched in 1991, it lasted just two seasons hefore being suspended. The same fate could befall it again although, giveo recent developments, that seems unlikely. In order to secure its future.

the World League must build on its 1995 average attendances of 14,500, increase its television viewing base, and effect an improvement in the overall quality of play. "What our board of directors wants to see this year goes beyond money, profit and loss," Oliver Luck, the World League's president, said. "They want the feeling that we're on the right path, and from what I've seen so far, we will be able to demonstrate significant progress both on and off the field."

The signs are certainly encouraging. In Britain, the arrival of William "Refrigerator" Perry in London and the conversion of Gavin Hastings from rugby union have helped stimulate interest in the Loodoo Monarchs

We have gone into every game know-ing we have to win it. It has been part of the character-building at this club

over the last five years that we can go

iren garnes and hold our nerve. Alex Ferguson, Manchester United manager.

I'm tentiled of the consequences of

this. I hope it will not be held against Graham (Fenton) when he comes back

to Whitey Bay. Fenton's father, a New-castle fan, womes about his son's re-

turn home after his goals for Blackburn hurt Newcastle's title hopea.

If someone had a go at me with an

iron har and smashed my son over the head instead I couldn't live with my-self. That's why he won't be there.

weekend's return of American Football and the Scottish Claymores.

When they meet at White Hart

Lane on Sunday, the attendance

is certain to exceed last season's disappointing opening-day gate of less than 9,000. In Dusseldorf, the Rhein Fire have already sold more than 20,000 tickets for tonight's derby against the Frankfurt Galaxy. Last season, the Fire's best attendance was 19,000. "All six teams have sold more season tickets than at this stage last year." Luck said. "That doesn't mean we

if we're in the high teens and low 20's, everyone should be happy." Televisioo exposure has increased significantly. In Britain, Channel 4 has joined Sky Sports, Scottish TV and eight Continental broadcasters whn will show games. There will also be two live matches each weekend in the United States, on the fx cable channel.

expect 45,000-strong crowds, but

When the World League was shown in the US in 1991 and 1992, it was a ratings disaster, American fans perceiving it to be a poor-quality imitation of the NFL This year, however, the league features more than 60 players on loan from NFL teams.

be better than in the past, Luck said. "We had a number of the World League of NFL players trying out, and some were cut during training camp, which is an indication of the standard. I'm convinced that all six of our teams would beat Nebraska, the current college champions. This is the best football you'll find outside the NFL." The signs are encouraging, but

American football in this country continues its quest for credibility. It is still trying to recover from the excesses of 1991, when the Monarchs played tn audiences of 40,000 at Wembley. Such gates were never at-

tainable over a sustained period, but the result is that an average of 10,000, which the Monarche achieved in 1995, is viewed in some quarters as a failure. This seems harsh when placed in the context of attendances at Wimbledon, Charlton, Millwall, and the mainrity of the country's leading rugby union club sides.

Expectations now are lower, and while the league still has to prove itself, significant progress both on and off the field is within its grasp this year, and should lead to long-term stability. ■ The Loodon Mooarchs'

final game of the season, against the Rhein Fire on 16 June, has been switched from White Hart Lane to Chelsea's Stamford Bridge as Tottenham begio work on replacing their pitch.

**QUOTES OF** 

Barry Fry, the Birmingham manager, on why his son did not go to watch Milwell v Birmingham in midweek.

If I don't want to be remembered as the man; who took this other [Coventry] down. Ron Atlanson, manager of Coventry who have had 29 years at the top. ididn't come to italy to be a target for people who call me a negro in pubic. England midfielder Paul Ince on why racist supporters may cause him to leave internazionale.

I would say to lan Botham 'go and sort it out. We'll pay you to get Eng-lish cocket right'. If he cocks up, then you get someone else. But it's no use sitting on the fence. Allen Lemb, for-mer England cricketer.

They triggeno cristeres.

Whose can prepare all you want and putt until you are blue in the face, but if you get on the wrong side of the hole thet's it here. British amateur champion Gordon Sherry learns about life at the Masters the hard way. It was one of those things when

just let it flow. I let the reins of the horse go and let him run. Greg Norman af-ter shooting an opening-round 63 at the Masters in Augusta.

# A strange mixture overwhelmed Fenton's face, part elation but ake mainly guilt, as if he really shouldn't have been doing it

Tyneside: Red Letter Day in certain parts of Manchester. And the sight which will stick most in the mind after Blackburn's cruel destruction of Newcastle's championship desires on Easter Monday was not Kevin Keegan, the moment the final whistle went, hravely shaking Ray Harford by the hand when what he really wanted to do was shake the linesman by the throat. Nor was it the sixyear-old in the crowd, decked out in a black and white curly wig, trying to comfort his dad, trying to tell him that it didn't really matter, that football wasn't that important. And obviously failing. No, it was the look on Graham Fenton's face as he chipped his second goal over the hopeless figure of Shaka Hislop in the last minute that lingers in the

ıac

Black Monday it is now known on ten see on a football pitch, though probably not one to make it into the explain-the-goal-celebration round on They Think It's All Over. A strange mixture overwhelmed his face, part elation, but mainly guilt, as if he really shouldn't have been doing it. It was the look of a naughty

schoolbay. The commentator, auxious to extract every morsel of significance from the moment, explained it all: Fenton was a Geordie, a born-andbred Newcastle fan, his family were in the stands en masse, dozens of them decked out in black and white, not minding at all if Graham scored twice, so long as Newcastle scored three times. And then he goes and spoils it all, single-handedly killing off his beroes' hopes (or maybe not single-handedly, the Newcastle defence did their best to accommodate him).

The next day, the irony overdrive began: here was the Geordie who broke Geordie hearts. A clever news agency got hold of a picture of the young Fenton meeting Kevin Keegan at a Newcastle school of excellence back in the Eighties, which was circulated to the tabloids and run under headlines saying "the one that got away". Fenton was interviewed ("I'm not sure if I'll be welcomed back home"), his mum was interviewed ("we're still proud of him"), his dad was interviewed ("I'm not sure whether to board up the bouse or emigrate"). If his dog

ably have been called Keegan. It is in the nature of football that players will end up playing against the team they support. Steve were brought up Evertonians, Noel

bad been interviewed it would prob-

Jim White



Whelan remains such a Leeds supporter that, despite being offloaded to Coventry, he was spotted with his mates in the crowd at his old chih's Coca-Cola Cup semi-final with Birmingham. But oddly the times when professional fans inflict mortal damage on their favourites

Indeed Fenton's uneasy reaction to his strike was reminiscent of the most famous occasion when it all went pear-shaped for a supporter: Denis Law's back-beel for City against United in the Manchester derby in April 1974, the goal that sent United down. Actually it didn't, they were as good as relegated already. What really sent them down was fielding a pitiful team that was so goal-shy their keeper Alex Stepney, with two successful penalties, was the leading scorer for much of the season. But try telling that to De-

The goal itself was appropriately comical: Francis Lee cut the ball across from the right-hand side of the penalty area, it trickled past a couple of hopeless, prone, black-socked

legs and landed just behind Law. He did his best to avoid it, but some recalcitrant gene of professionalism made him flick out a heel in its direction. The ball hit it, left Alex Stepney flar-footed and bobbled into the net. It was a moment of pure hubris: Law was only there, in the wrong colour shirt, because the manager had prematurely off-loaded him, shabbily ill-treating the great Unit-ed hero by sending him into City exile. But you could tell that if revenge was on his mind, it was no consolation. Mike Doyle, a City stalwart, slapped him round the face a hit and told him to snap out of it, he'd just scored a goal against the enemy, so get celebrating. But Law couldn't, so upset was he at scoring against his team, he just went off the pitch, went

straight bome and never kicked a ball

in League football again.

Twenty-two years on, Law is constantly reminded of that moment. Wherever he goes in Manchester, people want to talk to him about it. Never mind that he scored 236 goals in his United career, it's the one he got for City everyone remembers. He's been asked about it so often, he now pretends to have erased it entirely from his memory: "You know," he says, as the anniversary approaches. People tell me it happened, but I can't remember a thing about it. That one I got in the '63 Cup final, though..."
Graham Fenton may think he's

had a bad week, but that it will all be forgotten after the weekend. What be doesn't appreciate is that in 22 years' time, someone in his home town will ask him to talk them through the two goals that sunk the Toon. Or maybe he does. And that explained the look on his face.

## Super-12 makes supercharged start in Australia

While professionalism is threatening to cause a schism in English club rugby, Down Under it has been used a launch-pad to increase the sport's popularity. Greg Growden reports from Sydney

fessionalism in England has proved a troubled road with more blind turns no doubt still to come, in Australia the end of the amateur era could hardly have gone more smoothly. Rugby league, with its stranglehold as the premier football code in New South Wales and Queensland, has always been Big Brother, but as union has made its bold bound into the business arena, league has ironically been pitched into disarray by a dis-

pute over power and money. Not quite. But there are encouraging signs that the long undernourished underling is seriously threatening rugby league.

The reason for the change is simple. The southern hemisphere administrators have in the Super-12 tournament devised a competition which has been an unqualified success, attracting record crowds, overwhelming media attention, plus the most marketable style of play - ex-pression rather than inhibition. The tournament could also not have been better timed, coinciding with the Australian Rugby League's unconscious attempt to self-destruct, through its highly emotive and divisive battle with Rupert Murdoch's

rebel Super League organisation. During a period where many

hile the move to pro- around greed and ego, the Super-12 was the ideal

> While the New South Wales league premiership was placed in limbo for two weeks, the only rugby available was the Super-12. And the tournament rose to the occasion, with several outstanding matches involving NSW succeeding in convincing some fans to convert.

The standard has been irresistible. bringing Test excitement to the provincial level

The early crowd figures proved that. When the league competition eventually started in late March, attendances were down 53.4 per cent, while representative rugby crowds had in-creased by 45 per cent. From only 3,217 spectators who watched Australian Capital Territory play NSW in Sydney in 1994, their next encounter, held last month at the Sydney Football Stadium, attracted 20,687.

This was before a crowd of 30,147 watched the NSW-Natal league supporters became sick and tired of a bewildering court- Football Stadium, the biggest room battle, which revolved crowd to watch the state side

since Fiji attracted 38,000 against the Waratahs at the Sydney Cricket Ground in 1952.

Away from Sydney, atten-dances have been as healthy. ACT reported their higgestever crowd in Canberra when the Brumbies played Auckland, while attendances at Ballymore for Queensland bave always been above the 15,000 mark.

The playing standard has also proved irresistible, bringing Test excitement to the provincial level. This has partly been brought about by the successful introduction of law changes, including enforcing the back row to stay engaged until the ball has left the scrum-base, and a bonus competition point for any team which scores four or more tries in a match.

This has prompted every team to be adventurous and test their abilities, even when matches appear lost. It has also encouraged the most vibrant of backline play, with several teams, Auckland, Natal, Northern Transvaal, NSW and Queensland, producing intricate and beautifully thought out moves. which would do any Barbarians line-up proud. Not having as many loose-forwards crowding the defensive line helps as well.

As important has been the competition point given to any team finishing within seven points of their opponents. So no one has an excuse to give up. Those in the northern



Jonah Lomu (white shirt), playing for the Auckland Blues in a Super-12 match in Palmerston North, New Zealand, last month

hemisobere should take the hint, because such innovations would help to enliven a Five Nations tournament, which is currently treated with total disdain in the southern hemisphere.

Sure, there has been the occasional headless chicken match during the Super-12 with all-out. frenetic attack outweighing flimsy defence. But the bulk of the games have stood out because of the excellent standard. The Super-12 is not yet

perfect. There are some problem areas, particularly the poor standard of refereeing, and the vast differences in interpretations from country to country.

The use of local referces has led to accusations of hias, with repeated complaints from coaches that their team "has been robbed" when away from home. The organisers are already considering introducing neutral referees for the second balf of the Super-12, but this is

too late for several disgruntled players, coaches and officials. Another dilemma is the in-

evitability of the Super-12 turning into a court drama. There is overwhelming anger on the eastern seaboard of Australia that hardly any of the Super-12 matches are being shown on terrestrial television, instead being limited to the Murdochbacked Foxtel pay-TV network, which only a small percentage of the population has access to.

Foxtel's main pay-TV opponent, Optus Vision, claim that they also have a contractual agreement to show the Super-12. Consequently the Australian TV sports war has now crossed codes with Optus challenging New Corporation's \$A780m (£370m) 10-year deal with the southern bemisphere unions

for the pay-TV rights. Optus, partly funded by Kerry Packer, have filed proceedings in the NSW Supreme

Court against the Australian Rugby Football Union, News Wat Spuin :. Corporation and Foxtel, for alleged breach of contract. However, the legal action is not scheduled to start until after the Super-12 final on 25 May, prompting at least one tourna-ment free of courtroom bickering, and the fine mess which bas given the code such a fillip at the expense of rugby league.

is per Tone

NOTTINGHAM

WOLVERHAMPT

COTT AUCTION MAIDE

Greg Growden writes for the Sydney Morning Herald

### Leicester see a chink of light

In between the unpleasantries between the Rugby Foothall Union and its higgest clubs. there is occasionally the light relief of some rugby. Gloucester's midweek defeat of Bath was a thrilling end in itself but also the means by which championship and relegation issues that were beginning to be settled have suddenly reopened. So this afternoon Leicester

go to Bristol in the unexpected knowledge that, provided they win their four remaining games, Bath too will need to win their three in order to regain the title - and even then it would be only on points difference. Bath have, however, been this

have shown them to have formidable powers of instant recuperation. Saracens are no less frantic about relegation than Gloucester, or since Wednesday Bristol, but it is their ill-fortune to have to face Bath

Saracens have given us problems in the past." Phil de Glanville, the Bath captain, said yesterday recalling the defeat at Southgate that cost them the title five years ago. "But we are at our most dangerous when responding to defeat." Saracens, by the way, were well repre-sented at Kingsholm to see how it can be done.

Though Jonathan Callard, the full-back's place-kicking critically absent from Gloucester, is available for Bath, Jeremy Guscott is still on a TV years of the Courage league assignment in South Africa.

prompting a move from wing to centre for Adedayo Adchayo and from centre to outside-half for Mike Catt to the exclusion of Richard Butland.

Bristol went below Glouces-ter as a result of Wednesday's events but have the important advantage of a game in hand over both Gloucester and Saracens and at the end of the season would anticipate winning. as everyone else, has at West Hartlepool, who are already relegated. Today they will not be pleased to see the return after injury of Leicester's captain, Dean Richards.

If Richard Hill, the Gloucester coach. gets his players playing against Harlequins at The Stoop as they did against Bath in the less refined setting of Kingsholm, it will be an his playing career with Bath and

It will be no less difficult, with Quins certain of a European place whoever is organising next season's club competitions and another daunting visit to Leicester next up for Gloucester on Wednesday week, before the prospectively decisive encounter with Saracens in a fortnight.

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP NATIONAL

LEAGU		VI.	TA	BL.E		
P	W	D	Ł	F	A	7
Bath 15	13	0	2	472	212	26
Leicester 14	12	0	2	354	176	24
Harleguins16	11	0	5	470	275	22
Wasps15	8	0	7	302	291	16
Sale	8	0	7	273	288	18
Opret	7	0	8	270	353	3/
Gloucester15	5	0	10	233	299	10
Bristof 14	5	0	9	213	330	10
Saracens15	5	0	10	252	392	10
W Hartlepool 14	0	0	14	245	457	0

### **Exodus to England sullies Neath's feats**

Other things being equal, Neath - definitely the team of the moment anywhere in Anglo-Welsh rugby - would be on the verge of a long era of brilliant success. Their young back division, who have lately run rings round the rest of Welsh rugby, bave years of development and distinction to come, writes Steve Bale.

But as they go into this afternoon's Swalec Cup semi-final against Newport at Cardiff. things are far from equal. Already the core of the Neath pack is about to be ripped out by the imminent departure of the Llewellyn brothers. Gareth to Harlequins and Glyn to Wasps. Others will undoubtedly follow the money.

As Neath don't have any not, at any rate, as much as the well-heeled English clubs - it seems they are doomed to a perennial cycle of ripening raw talent so that others can have the benefit of a player's full maturity. It's not all bad; at least there will be regular killings to be made on the new transfer

Perish the thought, but when Neath go out against Newport there will be personal value to he added as well as a place in the final on 4 May against Llanelli or Pontypridd, who meet in the other semi-final at Bridgend. A fortnight ago Neath gave Newport a 65-23 drubbing at The Gnoll which

which the visitors surrendered a substantial lead as to Neath's undoubted creativity.

less of a forgone conclusion than it might superficially seem. "I've never played in a game like it." Steve Williams, Neath's outstanding No 8, said. "But the semi-final will be completely different and there is no way we'll regard it as a walkover."

Pontypridd ended years of failure against Llanelli when they won last season's semifinal, only to proceed to defeat by Swansea in the final This season Neath, Pontypridd and Cardiff are best-placed in the deserving.

owed as much to the four con- league and it would be a secutive interception tries with crucl stroke if Pontypridd yet again finished without a trophy.
"Pontypridd have something

Hence today's rematch is of a reputation of being the 'nearly men' of Welsh rugby," Rupert Moon. Lianelli's former Wales scrum-half, said. "We intend to make sure they still have that reputation." Moon's unneighbourly pre-

diction - he lives in Pontypridd - is especially pitiless in relation to Nigel Bezani, the stalwart Pontypridd captain who will retire at the end of the season at the ripe age of 39 and would welcome just one trophy to his name. No one would be more

### **Howey joins** hopeful young Britons

DONALD OWENS

This year's British Open Judo Championship, to be held at Birmingham's National Indoor Arena today, will be unique for two reasons: it will have the most participants ever but all of Britain's top players, save one, will be missing from the

competition.

A total of 538 participants have registered for the annual event. However, most of Britain's leading prospects for the Olympics are in Japan for intensive preparation training. Kate Howey, 23, a former world silver medallist at under-72 kilograms, is the only top British player competing. Having per-formed badly in the Dutch Open last week, Howey decided she needed one more competition before the European Championships in May. She will leave for Japan tomorrow, to join the rest of the national team.

The British Open is not regarded as an A tournament. As such, it is regarded as relatively unimportant for players trying to qualify for the Olympics. However, it will provide a good chance for others in the national squad to prove themselves and possibly to win honours in Britain's most prestigious tournament

Considering that only 14 countries have sent players (fewer than usual) the high number of registered participants suggests that many young British hopefuls are making the most of this opportunity.

### SEDGEFIELD

1.45 German Legend 2.15 Russlan Castle 2.45 Glerugie 3.15 Knucklebuster 3.45 Uron V 4.15 Flash Of Reatm 4.45 Southern Cross GOING: Good to Flam.

Editard, indiciating course. Easy fences and long run-in on chase course of 500 yds.

■ Course is less than 1 mile SW of town near junction of A639 and A177. Bus service from Stockton railway station (0 miles away) or Durhum railway station (12 miles away). ADMISSION: Paddeck SS (OAPS S 1); Course S2. CAE PARE: Free. WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Go SHIP (3.45) WOR AL Carlinds on Monday.

LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Fred Pupples (4.45) has been sent 212 miles by 1. Jackson from Cradley, Herviord & Wores; My Sister Lacy (1.45) sent 180 miles by Miss K Whitehouse from Charch Stretten, Shropshire.

EDEN ARMS SWALLOW HOTEL CONDI-TIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 3m 3f 110yds (CLASS F) £3,000 added 3m 3f 110yds
5P-530. ARREY LAMP (RD) (CD) I H Johnson 7 11 10 ... 3 Taylor
000400 MCNARU (F) (C) (BP) Mc M Revely 10 10 4 LC McCommet.
34P-13 SUANT SON (25) (BP) R Fehrs 8 10 3 ... 8 Handleg
674001 CLASSIC CREST (26) 6 More 5 10 2 ... 7 Heat (5)
35550\* 6CHAMN LEGEND (40) O Lamb 6 10 2 ... 8 Canhill
FP400 TRESPANSER (38) 1 O Noil 7 10 0 ... 6 Canhill
FP400 TRESPANSER (38) 1 O Noil 7 10 0 ... 6 Canhill
FP400 TRESPANSER (38) 1 O Noil 7 10 0 ... 6 Canhill
FP400 TRESPANSER (38) 1 O Noil 7 10 0 ... S Porrito (5)

- B declared - Minimum weight: 7st 10th. This handloop weights: 7respasser 9st 5th. My Seter Lev 3st 10th. This handloop weights: 7respasser 9st 5th. My Seter Lev 3st 10th. This handloop weight 5on, 5-1 Clarate Crest, 7-2 German Legand, 9-1 Monera, 14-1 Trespasser, 33-1 others

2.15 LORDS TAVERNERS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 3m 3f 

2.45 VAUX HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D)

112-620 LITTLE BROWLEY (119) A Subank 9 12 0... 

- & declared -

ECTIFICE 9-4 Bethernoch, 5-2 Glehugo, 3-1 Stay Aughe, 5-1 Little Bross ley, 10-1 Val de Rama, 14-1 Brief Reunion, 18-1 others

3.15 REG BOYLE MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3.000 added 2m 5f 110yds ANO-UPO ABBUL EMIR (25) T Watson 9 11 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 32/0-060 BALLYALLIA CASTLE (49) R Fisher 7 11 5 \_\_\_ P63340 MUFID (L131) 0 Lamb 7 11 5. 93PO NEEDWOOD JOKER (25) J A Hams S 11.5 Richard Guer P-46 NICK THE BILL (15) / Wade 5 11.5 K John 086-P45 SPRING CALL (4) R Tate 6 11.5 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Mr C Paymer (3) 534656 BLOOKING SPRING (7) Mrs O Thomson 7 11.0 \_\_\_\_\_ SPrings 00000 ROSSEAW (43) Mrs K Lamb 4 10 12 \_\_\_\_\_ Miss S Lamb (7)

- 13 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Kaucklebostor, 3-1 Movac, 8-1 Spring Call, 10-1 Min

3.45 A1 BANDAG HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,500 added 3m 3f 111-P79 MAINC SHAM (7) (CD) 0 Estay 11 12 0 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Callington 122-62 URON V (25) Mrs M Raveley 10 11 12 \_\_\_\_\_\_ R Cable (5) 214021 GO SALLY (5) (CD) 8 Elson 10 11 7 (7ed \_\_\_Nr C Bonner (5) 502119 GRAND SCENERY (5) (EP) JH Johnson 8 11 1 \_\_\_\_\_ R Same A B Smitt 5 3536-65 THE GREEN FOOL (12) (C) Y Thompson 9 10 11. 65P554 SNOOK POINT (5) C Lamb 9 10 4... - 6 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Uros V, 9-4 Go SRy, 4-1 Grand Scenery, 9-2 Majic Rate, 4.15 REXAM HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 110yds

24504 SUBSECT AND LEGGED AND LEGG

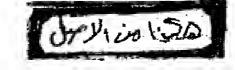
BETTING: 7-4 Flant Of Reason, 5-2 June Francie, 7-2 Tresidder, 6-1 Pulson 4.45 LEVY BOARD NATIONAL HIRT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m 10 PAPERISHIG (14) M Barnes 4 11 1 \_\_ U1 SOUTHERN CROSS (26) M W Enderby 4 11 1 ...... R Garnity DURAND Dens Smith 4 10 8\_ 63 FRED FUGGLES (22) C Jackson 4 10 8 \_\_\_\_ Chair Wells (5 ORLY A SKOUX J Turner 4 10 8.... SELVER MENK (35) GM Moore 4 10 8 O TORN TYLER (S) J Norton 4 10 8 TON TYLER (S) J NORTH A 20 0

TSANGA (33) J Hetherton 4 20 8

Whitegaries walte (26) J H Johnson 4 20 8

A 3 Shift

BETTMO: 7-4 Southern Cross, 5-5 Blood Brother, 6-1 class Factor, 7-1 Sever Max, 6-1 Paperising, 10-1 Fixed Fragges, 14-1 Dareld; 16-1 Tangla, Willingshas Willio, 20-1 others



## National plan to push the numbers up

Racing

JOHN COBB

For those that did not manage to find the Grand National winner, the bad news is that it is likely to be even harder next year. With only 27 runners gobecoming the first favourite to win the race for 14 years, Saturday's race presented the best chance for some time for form students to see their calculations ries 12st, rather than the 11st 7lb

mount at Nottingham yesterday

but made it tell with a victory

on Weet Ees Girl. Surprisingly there was little interest in the fil-

ASCOT

2.30 Capenwray (nb) 3.05 Inchcailloch

3.35 Star Rage

GOING: Good to Firm.

SIS AP THOSE

racecourse concerned that the mule which bars entries officially race attracted the smallest field rated lower than 120 when the for 36 years, are to discuss changes to revamp the race in February. order to make it more com-

Of the 27 horses that took part, only nine carried their coryear. With only 27 runners go-ing to post and a handicap snip rest shouldering 10st even though their abilities justified a less demanding impost.

Possible changes include ensuring that the top weight carround this year, and altering the

14-1 after opening up at 6-1.

4.10 Clifton Set

4.45 Proud Sun

■ Right-hand course with testing uphill finish.
■ Course is near function of A229 and A330, Railway station adjoins the course. AD-MUSSION: Members 512 (Junior Members aged 16-26 years, half price); Grandstand and Paddock 58; Silver Ring 55. CAR PARE: Purking areas number a 1, 2 & 3 & 4, re-

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: M Pipe = 17 winners from 79 runners gives a success ratio of 21.5% and a profit to a 51 level stake of £16.22; N Twiston-Davies = 16 winners, 97 runners, 16.5%, 4£11.21; D Nicholson = 14 winners, 50 runners, 23.7%, £10.26; O Sherwood = 14 winners, 63 runners, 22.2%, 512.47.

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: J Osborne – 34 wins, 124 rides, 27.4%, +547.71; E Denwoody – 19 wins, 117 rides, 16.2%, 450.11; A Magnite – 17 wins, 96 rides, 17.7%, 420.71; M A Pitagerald – 14 wins, 95 rides, 16.5%, +£12.59, WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Deise Marshall (2.301) has been sent 290 miles by J Wade from Mordon, Co Durham; Dreams End (3.351 has been sent 222 miles by P Bowen from Barcefordwest, Dyfed; Taroudant (3.35) & Welburn Bey (5.15) have been sent 221 miles by R Woodbouse from Welburn, North Yorkshire, Hy Old Chan (1.55) acts 207 miles by Anthony Foster from Tideford, Coruwall; Bigh Mind (3.35) sent 205 miles by 86m L C Sid-chill from Colton, North Yorkshire, Boyal Segas (2.30) & Run Far Cover (5.15) sent 205 miles by Mrs Nerys Dutlied from Annouth, Devon; Dingle Wood (5.15) acut 183 miles by S Griffiths from Nanagaredig, Dyfed.

1.55 CITY INDEX MARKET LEADER'S NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £3,891

4 2111-PG FONTANESHOUSE (13) Als Done V Roper G Bislang G 11 9 Photos INSTERN (Norman Bromb P Hodge 8 11 9 Photos G PETULARY PETE (40) Blas A Barday Mr. A Barday G 11 0 D Main (5) 7 4/-000 TREMBLE (53) Gas G Robert N Hendesson 7 11 0 Mr. A Ragicaldi E PO QUOTINE (13) (W Machael C Machael G 10 B G U Mark G 13) Mr. A Barday Mr. G 10 Mr. A Ragicaldi E PO QUOTINE (13) (Mr. Gertunia M Foster) Anthony Fester 7 10 9 Mr. Johnson (3) 1304 Mr. OLD GENA (13) (Mr. Gertunia M Foster) Anthony Fester 7 10 9 Mr. Johnson (3) 1504 Mr. G 13 Mirrorwald, 7-2 Major Nova, 5-1 Deligida, 6-1 Fontalmenouge, 16-1 Transida, 20-1 Mr. Old China, 25-1 Ning's Attain, 50-1 others

FORM CUIDE The step up in distance is a slight doubt, but withOSWARG should be well suited by the text ground judged from the way he handles Equipteds and he tooks to have an excellent chance of following up his January Folkestone win, He has twice found Kingsom Of Shades too good there and at Lingfield, but he pulled 14 lengths clear of the third when beaten half a length that the Change property and the truth when the state to the third when beaten half a length.

morth when 10th of 22 behind indefence, Fourtainerough and Dollight have writing form in irish bumpers and over hurdles in France respectively but have disappointed from a finted number of mins in this country. Conditions will be very different today than when Major Nova won at Lingfield (2m 7f. heavy) last morth and this looks a much tougher race. Moreoster bumper winner My Old China will at least have ground conditions in her favour.

2.30 FAIRVIEW NEW HOMES NOVICE CHASE (CLASS BECT)

0042 CALL ME CITIZEN CLS (N. I. Shone) R Curts 10 11.8 ..

1995: Insh Stomp 6 11 8 M Dwyer 11-10 (F Murphy) 5 ran

1995: Postage Stamp 8 10 13 M Dever 5-2 (F Murphyl 5 ran

9 1-203 MAREJMAR QALE (8) (E. Sorpe) in Rivard 8 11 8.
11 12-63/2 ROYAL SEGOS (11) Mrs N Dutield Nrs N Dutield 9 11 6
12 13-63/2 WIND'S NEXT (10) Plany history) Jenters 8 11 8
14 17-23 SEENIEW PRINCESS (2) (8) Plany history N North Next I nos 8 11 3
14 P.3P 3/2 SEDGE WARBLER (33) (Mrs P Roberty Mrs P Roberty 8 11 3.

-14 coctored 
BETTING: 7-2 Copensoray, 9-2 Jettera, 5-1 Gentlem Princess, 6-1 Fordow, 7-1 Ge Bellistic, 13-2
Lucky Doller, 10-1 Wino's Next, 12-1 Sodge Warbler, 14-1 Derring Bed, Royal Segoe, 16-1 Marruma Gale, 33-1 Call Mc Offices

FORM QUIDE

PORM GUIDE

GO EALLISTIC is not one in whom to have total conflictance, but he stands out on the form of his course and distance second to Hell Of Tullion and his soon to Challenger Du Luc in the Cathcart of Cheltenham. Mick Fitzgerald, who has twice ridden him here, will not be tocking in confidence and can get him home. Footnew was tasked off third behind Golden Somme on his chesing debut at Newbury last month, but he did win a nowice hardle have 13ml on faster ground in November and Diver Sherwood has his numers in good form now. Lucky Dollar camput be ruled out even though he has failed to complete in three of his sor starts this term. Debte Mershall seems fishered by his good run against King Lucifer at Normigham, write Seetige Warbler, Who's Next and Jultium might well be better performers on softer ground. Capelinarray was bestern a long way into second place by the useful Tryling Again at Wincanton tast time but his chance in fact disappeared when rain softened the ground. This seven-year-old is a different proposition on fast going and will prove hard to best today.

3.05 DAILY TELEGRAPH NOVICE CHASE (HANDICAP) BEC1

121:30 CAPDIAN (HEDINE (22) (Wholes Partnership) P Notolis 8 11 10 P Hilds
122:1 BICHCHILLOCH (28) (F ) Carten J King 7 11 8 (Sex) R Democody
24:111 GARRITUDUGH (28) (D) (T ) Wholey I O Gardelo 7 10 13 M Doyler
33:53:2 SOUTHWARF (20) (C2) (RF) (Highles) G Balling 5 10 B A P Motoly
UI 1313 DESTRAY CALLS (118) (Smon Hartip) N Gazdele 8 10 7 P Reven
P51670 PURPDER BAY (USA) (S2) (E 5 & W Y Roberd N Henderson 5 10 4 M A Filographi

SETTING: 5-2 Inchragingth, 3-1 Georylough, 4-1 Captain Knodwe, 9-2 Southerspiers, 7-1 Deathy Calls,

FORM GUIDE Gerrylough wit have plenty of supporters in her bid for a four-timer, having created a very good impression when winning a valuable mares' race at Umminer last time. Even from a stone higher mark, she still looks to be fairly hundicapped, but INCHCAILLOCH is a tougher.

stone higher mark, she still looks to be fairly hundicapped, but INCHCAILLOCH is a tougher opponent than she has faced so far and the latter is pretamed on his current form. Jeff King's sever-year-old was rather desapporting after beating Centainly Strong a length at Kempton in November, when Deathry Calla (22to better off) was beaten 22 lengths in that. However, inchcalloch run a blander to be fourth to Ventant Canyon in the Antie and showed it was no fluke When scoring by a distance over this trip at Sandown last week, 6 is true that cursumstances consorred in his layout lost time, with his market maks, notably the moody Harvell Lad. porforming below par, but inchcalloch is well worth the channe under a 8th penalty. Capitalia Khedilve has the beating of my selection on Sandown running behind Centainly Strong in December but, whereas inchcalloch was below his best then, that was something of a peak for Capitain Nivedwe, who has twice felled to complete giane. He has a deal of abidy but until he shows more during a his lender, he tense should be a deal of abidy but until he shows more during a his lender. He has a deal of abidy but until he shows more during a his lender. He has a deal of abidy but until he shows more during a his lender. He has a deal of abidy but until he shows more during a his lender. He has a deal of his house what to make of Plander Bay, out of form over hundles and making his official to know what to make of Plander Bay, out of form over hundles and making his

K Gaul

1P DELICENT (FR) (46) (BIF) (G Middlebrook) K Belley 5 11 6 ....

1995: Sant Keyne 5 11 7 A P McCoy 6-1 (D L Williams) 9 ran

Punters burned their fingers by backing Joint Venture down

weights are published in early-

That rating qualification denied a run in this year's race to eight horses, including the subsequent Eider Chase winner, Killeshin.

The idea behind keeping lowly rated horses out of the race is to ensure that the sort of moderate horse that disfigured some previous runnings of the race and that were a danwork out. Now, the British that Young Hustler humped ger to themselves and other competitors, are excluded. That

race is a lively medium for bookmakers and punters. Aintree's clerk of the course.

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Beldray Park (Hamilton 3.30) NB: Royal Silver (Ludlow 2.15)

Charles Barnett, defended the rating qualification. "The idea of the ratings was to avoid nohopers running in the race be-

argument seems rather more cause they would probably be er field, the earliet start of the important than ensuring that the the sort of horses that wouldn't National and the fact that the be suited to the course. I would rather have 27 good horses than 40 no-hopers in the race."

Bookmakers William Hill are also looking for changes at Aintree after reporting betting-shop turnover on Grand National day was down by 2%, despite the recent 1% out in bet-

ting duty.
"We believe that part of the reason for the downturn is the continuing influence of the National Lottery," the firm's Ian Spearing said. "While the small-

2.30: CAPENWRAY was a poor second to Thying Again in the mud at Wincenton two weeks ago, but left King's seven-year-old shows his

Park 4.00 Dragonjoy 4.30 Mariful 5.00 Philimlist

#OING: Good to Seft.

#FLALLS: All races grands' side except im & lmlf (Inside rel).

#FLALLS: All races grands' side except im & lmlf (Inside rel).

#FLALLS: All races grands' side except im & lmlf Styde.

#FLAT Hand underslang course with pear-shaped loop.

###Course is N of own on B7071. Hamilton West extition (service from Gaugew) 1m. ADMHSHOW: Cub \$12; Grandstand and Paddock 37 (54 for OAPs, dashled & sunderss, \$10 for complex); accompanied under-16s free all enclosures. CAR PARK: Pres.

(viscred, 6.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: (2.45) won at Edinburgh

on Monday. LONG-DISTANCE BUINNERS: Face It (2.56) has been sent 399 W G M Turner from Conton Denhum, Sommest; Rjumbette Chemnas (4.00) sent 370 miles by M Chemnon from Up-turn, Berkshire.

2.25 SOUTH LANARKSHIRE CLASHING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 edded 1m 1f 38yds

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

ELANCHEAND PRinchers 7 11 COURT MAP (19) (ID) 8 Mistor 4 11 4.
E. COMPOSES (28) W Jards 5 11 4.
FRUSTING (19) (ID) P Hobbs 4 11 4.
JOSHUM'S WISHON (128) R Lee 5 11 4.

NOTIFIC SELVER (76) 7 Route 6 11 4... SELVER SUMME (22) H ONE 7 11 4...

2.45 SHROPSHIRE STAR NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2m

GULASS E/ E-DAVOV GUICOS ARTH 212725 LUEE OF HOUSEMER (223) (2) RF F Index 10 11 10 J Index 212725 LUEE OF HOUSEMER (223) (3) K Rainy 6 11 10 — 6 Beauty 25-1541 BERLINS DEFAM (23) O Sherwood 7 11 10 — 8 Fewell 10-3PP BARTON SANTA (25) 6 Bootshee 7 11 3 — 8 Fewell 505276 EMERALD ROOM (246) P Rodind 9 11 3 — 8 Berrough 5POPTS GULARET BURKETT (3-6) Hen J Stelebotem 7 11 3 July J Julius 5-1070 PREVENDINGET (25) 8 Ortholog 9 11 3 — Gery Lyman 13305F STAR OF DOAD (26) Him A Emblions 8 11 3 — R Guest

SETTING: 7-4 Mortes Dream, 2-1 Oction Med 12-1 Other Doctott, 14-1 Emerald Meon, 1

2.15 BURNARTON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m

National and the fact that the BBC screened only three races this year were other contributory factors.

"It was noticeable that notentially one of the best betting. Charlie Brooks-trained Suny races of the day, the Cordon Bleu Handicap Hurdle, was: relegated to the dead end of the vious week. He, along with othmeeting instead of receiving prime-time coverage."

The same firm have tried to claw back some of the money they had hoped to see at Aintree by opening betting on Mon-day's Irish Grand National.

3.85: Captain Khedive would be the choice if a clear round could be guarchoice it a clear round could be gear-anteed, but his jumping his often cost-his supporters dearly. Deathay Calls appreciates a sound surface but faces a tough task against INCB-CALLOCH whose provess over the stiff Sandown fences last time gives

who made ignominious departures at Aintree, are 8-1 and 10-1 chances respectively to gain compensation at Fairyhouse, but the favourite, at 3-1, is the Bay, who had been extremely impressive at Newbury the pr er British-trained acceptors in Full Of Oats and Tartan Tyrant, will take part only if they are granted a soft surface. Final declarations for the race, which is to be shown live on Channel 4.

are to be made on Friday. 3.35: Richard Durwoody reported that STAR BAGE was unsuited by the slow early pace when the sin-year-old was a losing favourite at Aintree on Saturday. If today's con-Amires on Samuay, It tony's con-test is more strongly run he will be very land to bear, although the odds look sure to be ungenerous. Dreams End looks the main threat.

11/900- MONINEER CLASTER (2005 | Birry 83 ... ... J Chred 11 521- APEMAR (2005 A Mathodised 9 1 ... ... J Wester 10 500- REALTY EDENY (2005) Man 1: Private 81 ... ... Dale Official 1 00650-8 HOUSE CHOICE 9 6 in House 81 ... ... Dale Official 3 40500-3 LARSYLINES/CERUST (7) J J OTHER 810 ... 5 D WINNESS

4.00 LANARK SELLING STAKES (CLASS 6) £3,000 added 370 1m 65yds

-7 declared 
NETRIC: 11-4 Clauseno, 6-1 Desperior, 7-2 Pleaston Demour, 6-1 Rettio, 6-1 States A Wanner, 18-1 Beauroli, Classic Visitory

4.30 EAST KLERIDE HANDICAP (CLASS D)

400-000 CLASSIC VERTORY (15) (C) R Herris 9 2 2-25-2112 DIMMONDOV (25) (M Physic 6 2 - 05800-0 DIMERROCK (R) M Dode 8 11 - 04346 - PRIMERON DIMERROCK (R) M Dode 8 11 - 2344-0 CHESIAND (F) (RT) M Éberrort 8 8 - 51425 A WINNER & Williams 5 6 - 7 Acelerot.

### prolongs Nicol's Open jinx

Peter Nicol fell foul of his British Open jinx again yesterday when he lost in the first round in Cardiff. The British national champion, who has failed to win a match in four attempts at the event, was beaten 15-13, 15-12, 3-15, 9-15, 15-13 in 96 minutes by Paul

Johnson, the No 7 seed. Nicol was fancied to complete the double of the closed and open British titles but Johnson had other ideas. The world No 27 won on the same court where Nicol had defeated the great Jansher Khan in 1994.

Successive first-match defeats over the previous three vears to Zarak Jahan, Craig Rowland and Julien Bonetat seemed to prey on Nicol's mind from the start. He lacked the incisive and positive approach which normally makes his raiying so forceful. From leading 11-6 in the fifth game, Nicol became so loose and defensive that Johnson was able to force victory in three more hands.

"This is my first win over Peter since he rose into the world top 10, although I used to beat him easily and often as a jumor. Perhaps that was in his mind today," Johnson said.

Johnson got the benefit of a dubious decision at 5-3 in the fifth game, but that was balanced out two rallies later when a burst ball which should have been ruled a let was called as a point to Nicol: It was the replacement ball that helped Johnson to victory, however.

"The new ball was livelier and allowed me to pick up rhythm and pace just as Peter seemed to tire," Johnson said. Johnson will now play Tony

Hands, who defeated Ahmed Barada, the world junior champion from Egypt, 15-11 15-13, 15-9, in 54 minutes. In the women's championship, Cassie Jackman took

her revenee against Linda Charman, who had put her out of the National Championship, Jackman now faces Vicki Cardwell. the 40-year-old former British Open champion, who defeated Meeghan Bell.

Fiona Geaves, the eighth seed, beat Janie Thacker to set up a match against Rehecca Macree who defeated Donia Leeves.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

PEAN CUP STREET PRINTED FIRST LIBE

Football

FA CARLING PRO

Ajax v Panethinglore (6.30) ... Jarantus v Nambes (6.30) .....

CRE VALDOVALL CONFESIONCE Both v Slough SPALDATE CUP SEAR-FRAL SECOND LISE Manchestield v Stationat

ICIS LEMBUS: Pressure Infratories Incocy Watching.
UMBORID LEMBUS Pressurer Divisions: Hyde Und v Emisy. Press Divisions: Bradford PA v Athenton LP, Leigh V Greet Harvood.
BENUER HOWES LEMBUS Pressurer Divisions: Newyord AFC v Athentons. Mindland Divisions: Dudgy Grantsers Softwal Bookuph v Bury Fown.
Southern Divisions: Farsham v Palver SS. Dr. Blertonna Cap seemi-finel second legt Seldock

LEAGUE OF WALES: Ton Pentre v Aberystwyth.
P AND J HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Descriptivitie v

LOSSIPPOUNT HEREINAND UNSTED COUNTIES LEAGUE Precier Division: Rounds y Mintess Blackstons, MOETHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Preview Divisions Registry Arnold; Density v Malitry MW; Hellern v Herticid Mela.

PEDEROTION BREWERY MORTHERN LENGUI First Oblision: Seeham Red Star v West Auch land, LCI. Cap sensi-Rank Whitey South Shield WONSTONLEAD NERT LEAGUE First Division

land, LCE. Cap seen-filmelt Winty v South Shelds.
WINSTONE EAD NERT LEAGUE First Divisions:
Datiford v Thannesmend.
Pointing v Thannesmend.
Pointing v Thannesmend.
Shelfineld Util (T.O); Ochsin v Binning (T.O);
Second Divisions Enacted v Benneley (T.O); Sussiley v Rotherham (T.O); School v Senting (T.O);
Leleaster v Blackpool (T.O); Manchester City v
Sunderham (T.O); Manchester City v
Sunderham (T.O); Manchester City v
Sunderham (T.O); Third Divisions: Lincoln v
Websil (T.O); Rotherhald v Scarbonough (T.O);
Preston v Hull (T.O); Third Divisions: Lincoln v
Websil (T.O); Rotherhald v Scarbonough (T.O);
Shrewbury v Scarthorpe (T.O); Christon of the Manchester City of the Manchester

Rugby Union
HENGEN WEST LENGTE Float Don't
History Union (7.15); Neath v Abers

**BLEDWESSER LEAGUE: Landon v Hernel (9.0);** Shaffeld v Doncaster (8.0); Thames Valley v Dechy

Raskethall

### **Punters miss out as Dettori rides solo** Frankie Dettori had just one derhill Maiden Stakes and she Girl capitalised after Joint Venwon at the rewarding odds of ture lost several lengths when swerving left at the start.

true ability only on fast ground, which he should get today. The sev-en-year-old can prove too good for. But at Folkestone odds-on backers profited when Mick ly in the betting for the Cin- to 4-11 from 4-6. But Weet Ees Fitzgerald won on Sorbiere. 3.35 CITY NOEX SPREAD SETTING HANDICAP HURDLE ST (CLASS C) £7,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £5,152 

A Thorston

A McCartley

1995: Nature 10 11 10 0 Brigantier 10-11 (\$ Does 4 cm.)

STAR RAGE is being kept aimost as busy over hurdles as he was on the Flat, this being his sidth run in 40 days, but he higs shown how well he holds his form and is fancied to supplement his win in Chettenham's County Hurdle. The str-year-old goes off an 3th higher mark then at the Festivel, but he holds Dresens End, High Mind and Most Equal on their form and was besten just two longths in third of 17 to Stompin at Aintree on Saturday off today's mark. High Mind advertued the County form when finishing second to Sharksahlus at Ayr next time, while Most Equal, who unsented at Chetterham, can do better back off his cornect mark. Flying instruction is a Body denger having come back well from a break since December to score by 10 lengths from Chell-to (winner since) in a Unaveter novice hurdle recently, the goes well on a test surface and is fresher then note. The is much tougher than the Hurthagdon tasfes' rice het Weekshey wan test time and also the Fonkeel roce in which How's it Coln was third to Sophie May. Survez will appreciate underfact conditions and may have benefited from his Falvenham run behind Rol Du Nord.

Selection: STAR RAGE

4.10 ALPINE MEADOW HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £7,000 added 3m Penalty Value £5,425 11203P RUMANNY PETE (NSA) (21) (Parist Associated M Plot 8 11.3 ... 

#Hillman weight: 10st, True handicap weights: Steel Muss 9st 10th, Royal Piper Set 9th, Metal Charact On Set Chinari Sec (St. 1887). Headon Point, 5-1 Cities Set, 11-2 Storm Hearth, 6-1 Research Puts, 7-1 Heading, 8-1 Research Heat, 13-1 Report Place, Send Storm, 14-1 Going Around, 33-1 offices. 1985; Applications 8 11 8 C Livershyl 6-1 (C Marril 10 Dec. 1985).

FORM GUIDE HARDONG has had to move much of his own running in two novice hunder since winning at Newfury last mostli, which has left frin there to be shot at, although it has to be said that he was in front a long way whon wireing. Harding put up a good performance to be second to Lundod Gerary in a conditionals' handless over bee and a half miles have in February, when he came from off the poes. This does not look as though it is going to been much winning and, with the course sure to suit, he can resise the return to handlesps a winning one. Research public by public up behind Great Esseby at Chaltenium, gose off the same make, as when third to Trainglet in a widulet Sandown rack. He will refish underfoot conditions and reless the main danger, Newton Point also poses a threat following his three-quarter-length second to Leed Vocalise at Sandown last month on his first run sinch his vocament. Royal Piper and Rosena listes, fifth and sixth respectively, are held. Officer Set goes well on this ground and is Libb lower than when fifth to the mark Sesion Cash over course and distance in February, Storm North, in mid-division behind Uniterior at Chebenium, scored over course and distance in January but is 9th higher having bestern Chop-well Curtains a neck.

4.45 MAHONIA HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £4,000 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £2,879 37 1.1.0/965 POR RENTY SHARING 2-2,25/9

2 4/11-R) MRY GOULDHILY (20) MNyo-Thorned J Well 12 12 8

2 4/11-R) MRY GOULDHILY (20) SHA 8 I Coddory Mrs S Coddory 9 12 8

3 F111-R4 PROUD SHA (20) Sharen Paul S Pile 5 12 8

4 64:Jin- SHA WHIN (0.54) GAPJ (Mrs.) Habiter-Wight) P Oversings 10 12 4

5 65-310 TRYWN THA (22) (3) (Mrs.) Michael N Yester-Desis 11 12 4

6 84:346 TRUST HE 67/F37 (23) (Mrs.) Michael N Yester-Desis 11 12 4

8 /PC3-43 PACOTS BOY (23) GH N York R You 11 12 19

9 423:205 SOCIAL CLIMETER (8) 8, D Nember S Girmon 12 12 10

10 60/4-12F A WHINT CHIZZH (6) (Mrs.) JA Thorney N No. C Hole 7 11 13

- 10 decismed -

SETTING: 9-4 Proud Son, 6-1 Toping Tim, 6-1 Pacor Soy, 7-1 No Golighthy, 8-1 Assert King, A Windy Citizen, 14-1 Ruth Wan, 16-1 Treat Time Oppey, 20-1 others 1996: Synderborough Lief 9 12-3 Nr M Felton 13-8 (S Pine) 10 ran

PROUD SUN, a faller at Kempton on his reappearance, did not jump well at Cheltonium last time, so it was a good effort for him to finish fourth to Begant Lord, beaten just 13 lengths attrough no match for the first two. The eight-year-old made up into a smart hunter-chaser last season, wholing his last four completed starts. Even over a trip short of his back he should prove too good for these rives. We Gelightly is another to have done well last season, wholing all three of his races. He has yet to complete this time but would be the lively main danger to Proud Sun if he does today. Tipping Ther's Contester with from fellow vestcares Space Fair and Al Historin was over today's trip and he has the ground in his fevour. He should make the frame. Power Revers desponded on his Wincurton return, Amari Riegi lacks a recent run and Traist The Gyappi is a 14-year-old now, so best of the others should be A Wilady Chizosa, successful at Leleaster (2m 41) last month.

5.15 LRY TREE STANDARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,229 H) £2,500 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value 3
ABOVE THE COLORS (A GRASSI) A Moore 511 6
SHAVE BUCK FIRST (LIF) Probb 511 6
CLASSIC EXTER (AB) Classic Brookstock & Pici R Chempton 511 6
CLASSIC EXTER (AB) Classic Brookstock & Pici R Chempton 511 6
CONNERDOR (29) BAY I R Addressor & Bucker 511 6
DEVIL QUAY (Ma) SHAVOR C Nation K Bulley 511 6
DEVIL QUAY (Ma) SHAVOR C Nation K Bulley 511 6
DEVIL WOOD (50) G 5 Galliful 5 Grifful 6 11 6
NOT FOR TURNHERS (Charles F Engel 9 Stephend 511 6
NOT FOR TURNHERS (Charles F Engel 9 Stephend 511 6
SHET POLICY (TR) Quies & W Palmen) (Visions 611 6
RE PROSES (40) 945 J Moudd N Turstoo-Davies 511 8
WARD ROLD (LIF) Charles (Ma) R H Mindresson 511 8
WARD ROLD (LIF) Charles (Ma) R H Mindresson 511 8 WALTER'S DREAM (Aus Bonne Barnes) 71 Hernderson 6 11 6 GYPSY BLUES (B) (Airs J V Wildrison) Mis J Williamson 6 11 1 HOCANTEL PA'S K & Biorg J Old 5 11 1 NOSEKAL (25) PA'S T D Pilorgeni Mrs T Pringen 5 11 1 SMEER JEANNE (Aim Susin Gryf C Woodon 5 11 1

U ANOTHER COCKET (25) (The Cocket Cody P Hotels 4 11 C.

U ANOTHER COCKET (25) (The Cocket Cody P Hotels 4 11 C.

U SANOTHER IAD (72) OND I THOMAS MIS D TRAINS 4 11 D.

6 WALTER'S DESTRY (23) (IW Marchell C Microel 4 11 D.

ON WELLERIN BOY (26) § Bay R Woodpaus 4 11 D.

9 ROM FOR COYER (25) (Mis Rays Dutled Are P Dutled 4 10 9.

24 Modelmed - Color (25) (Mis Rays Dutled Are P Dutled 4 10 9.

24 Modelmed - Color (25) (Mis Rays Dutled Are P Dutled 4 10 9. SETTING: 7-1, Not For Turning, 6-1. Strong Pointin, Malter's Dream, 6-1 The Prose, Made Road, 16-1 Deal Quay, Rocantell, 12-1 Tengales, Win The Tota, 14-1 State Rack, 26-1 others. 1395: Domangon 5 11 8 Mr J Durien 6-5 (0 Sterwood) 7 am

FORM GUIDE

Strong Peladin looks likely to improve on a Sandown fifth to Marching Marquis and is the pick of those to have run. However, the chances are that there is a decent newconer in the field and WIN THE TOSS, an lakely a Delight four-year-old with Richard Johnson booled, attracts. Other Shahwood with the race lest year and his Not For Turning is to be feared. d. representing Heryletta Kryght and with Jim Culletty up, and Brave Bo

1 (CLASS F) £3,450 anded 1M 1F 30yds 1 (42310- BRSM: THE RLES (207) Mrs M Reely 4 10 0 Darley 5 2 3000-00 CASSE NOSBELD (12) R Herts 6 10 0	£5,500 added 1m 3f  1. 66000- DOM FORGET CORDS (270) 6 M Mooni 48 10.1 Fortuno 9  2. 002550- TENTERION (00 (250) (3 Me M Routly 69 6 K Darley 2
3 50501- FRAM (197) S Retined 4 9 33	6 22-055. MARTINI. (23) W Plays 4 9 5
11 00400-8 SEENTHELIGHT   IM-P   D Modilet 4-8-12 _ Decree Modilet (S) 11   12	BETUNE 3-1 Minutel, 7-2 Autoil Manin, 4-1 Securitat Elia, 5-1 Cultor Ring, Cuttivent Rid, 5-1 Don't Perget Curtis, 19-1 others
RETURN: 3-1, Telephol Ying, 7-2 Break The Radon, 8-1 Field Of Vighon, 7-1 Fault, 8-1 Cantal Research, Femory Rosen, 55-1 To Prove A Public, 58-1 offices	5.00 CAMBUSLANG HANDICAP (CLASS F) 63,800 added 1m 4f 1 311405- BANKITSHE (R03) (R03) No. M Roychy 4 9 10 _ K Danley B
2.55 RUTHERELEN AUCTION MADEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 actided 2YO fillion 5f  BYRLETTE M CHAPTON 811 K Darloy 1  6 RACE IT (5) WG M Turker 8 11 Z Species 2  MILLENG SER, K W Restricts 8 11 Date Classes 4  MILLENG SER, K W Restricts 8 11 Date Classes 3  TAZENSI D Modite 8 11 Dervis Multipe (2) 6  6 declared —  SETTINE: 11.8 Episcistes, 24 Northern Sel, 8-1 MR End Gel, 11.4 Face It, 8-1 Tember  3.30 HAMELTON HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,600  added 3YO 6F	2 3134-35 CEMPRINE PRINCIPE (103) R1 Horizon 4 9 6
1 4064-1 BELDRAY PARK (P) (P) Mr. A King 10 D (You)	Handle Service (St. 2016).  He Chieffer (St. 2016).  HETTER: 6-1 Rant's bile, 4-1 Roundson Estate, 6-1 Publishet, 10-1 Berotstet, He Charakse, Emberton, Charlie Highwa, 22-1 others
HYPERION 2.15 Faustino 2.45 LAKE OF LOUGHREA (nap) 3.20 Conti D'Estraval 3.50 Nodforms Inforno	3.50   BUNDY CONDITIONALS NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,500 2m 5f 110yds   1   FF8 THEOLINE (DIN K Belley 5 11 10   6   6   6   6   7   7   7   7   7   7
4.20 Criminal Record 4.55 Oaldands Word 5.25	6 SPTV REFRECTE LA CHASSE (14) D Naticiero 4 11.5 R Mousey (3) 7 USDDOO RAUGHO (34) H Ober 6 11.4

<u> </u>	
	3.50 BUNDY CONDITIONALS HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,0 1 FFE THEOGRAPH (20) K Baley 5 11 10.
HYPERION 2.15 Faustino 2.45 LAKE OF LOUGHREA (nap) 3.20 Conti D'Estraval 3.50 Nodforms Inferno 4.20 Criminal Record 4.55 Oaldands Word 5.25 Zaitoori	2 Q49-93P REMANDRE CHARLO CLS) MP Pape 7: 1 3 13-8000 PRESION BLUK (RE) N Tydano-Duk 4 055540 PRESION BLUK (RE) N Tydano-Duk 6 649-00 WIZZO (440) 8 Palling 8 11.6
GOUNG: Good to Firm.  Ill Right-hand course. Chase course has sharper bends than impder course.  Ill Course is NW of town off A49. Ladlow raffway station (Here-	9 COMP-0 INCOMPRISHE REFERENCES P Hobb 10 O-004 BRANSIC LEW (28) J M Bodiny 5 I 11 OPO BRAN QUEST (28) 8 Cambridge 9 J 12 COCC SOUND FORESAST (28) Mrs. 5 John
fort - Stewardury Intel 2m. ADMISSION: Club £14 (second- int - Stewardury Intel) 2m. ADMISSION: Club £14 (second- stied under-16s free); Tastemails £9; Course £6. CAR FARE: Prec.	13 3POSPO DRAGONNEST (LIR) F.Lorden 6 10 T 14 GPP MERCURE MELLODY (\$2) P. Richan - 14 doctored - Millianum weight: 1Dat. True handlesp weights: Size
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS - NORTH	orante Ser 20, Minhare Melody Ser 130. BESTERR: 7-2 Tringuess, 4-1 Selengre Cloud, 6-1 B

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Lumbeen (4.20) has been sent 167 rules by J Pearce from Newmarks; Suffolic Ster Of David (2.45) sent 167 rules by Mas A Embiticos from Newmarks; Suffolic

AMUNTAN Height 10st. True handling weights Sound Forecast Set 80s, Orig- on-like Set 20s, Miniture Melody Bet 13th.
BESTERR 7-2 Tringues, 4-1 Selence Cloud, 8-1 Bright November, 7-1 Robin Do La Chause, 8-1 Personisses, 10-1 Hodforms Inform, 12-1 others.
De La Classe, 8-1 Personimes, 19-1 Hodforms Inferro, 12-1 others
TA AA SHROPSHIRE STAR SELLING HANDICAP
4.20 SHROPSHIRE STAR SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,800 2m
1 13F-0 JUNICTION TWENTYTHIO (32) C Broad 5 11 12 W Maraton
2 445233 IONZAWE (19) (CD) A Carrol 11 11 11 Chale Webb (5)
3 023250 TORY'S NEST (34) JM Bradley 5 11 5
4 21-0690 BNRQNSH (25) M Barochugh 9 11.4
5 02050-0 EASTERN MARIC (85) (0) 8 Barrett 8 11.3Mr E James
8 050P10 QUEENS CONTRACTOR (25) (D) C Pophero 6 11 3
7 800045 JAVA SHREE (14) J Tuck 6 11 2
7 800045 JKW SHREE (14) J Tuck 6 11 1 S Michael
8
8 030F04 SAFE SECRET (18) R Brotherton 5 11.0 Hervey
10 POLOPO CLASSIC MORAL (18) (D) H Numers 811 0 _A Donate (T)
11 PPODD-0 RESAL BURNELER CON L BACKET 5 11.0 S Wysne
12 60800P EDWIND SETHOUR (34) (CD) W Jude 9 10 13
13 060-P60 MINSBLS MILLION (25) T Morton 10 10 12 6 Hogen (3)
14 30-0105 CHEEVIL RECORD (242) (3) P Bradley 6 1.0 11 I R Keynnigh
15 P20014 LANESON (15) (D) J Proces 9 10 11   McLandile
18 04P30U- NADADA (908) 0 Burchel 5 10 11
17 D-OUPSU MUTOWALL (24) R Baler 5 10 10
18 250543 GEORGE LAVE (\$1) F Junior 8 10 9 Lodder
19 POOD FENETY BOSS (82) N Thister-Davies 4 10 8
20 30F040 LORCAPUO (15) (D) () Curry 5 10 4
- 20 declared -
BETTERS: 5-1 Lamboon, 6-1 Raizeri, 8-1 Criminal Record, George Lane,
10-1 Tony's Mist, Faisty Buss, Queens Contractor, 12-1 others

10	1 Tony's 1	But, Faisty Buss, Queens Contractor, 32-1 others
4	1.55	CHASE MEREDITH MEMORIAL HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 3m
-		
1	01-7-50	CAUGICIANNES (34) (7) L Bories 11.125_Mas (7)
2	1426-20	1010CHEMISTER (34) (CD) 8 J Strick 13 12 5 Jan T Byrne (5)
3	P00001	GARLANDE WORD (11) E Rhotes 7 12 5 14- J Julius (7)
4		MUSTY MEDGE (7) (3) Mis 2 Johnson 812 5 July & Thomaton (7)
S		KALI SANA (IA) M HE 8120
6		WATCHET LAD (24) Mrs A Price 6 12 0
7		WEST QUAYT Long 10 12 0
8	OUF	THORNELL (4) F Methers 5 11 9
_		- 9.declared -
-	THE 2.4	California Minest 7.0 Manufaccushing Combidentions C.C Minest

3.20 BURNETY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2m; 47  1 3413-49 PORTIVISIEN (133) 9 burbel 8 11 10 D J Burbell 2 F3222 LARRYS LORD (12) 0 My P Nordol 7 11 10.0 My Lordo (3) 3 1-67231 BOSTON ROVER (25) 63 95 0 Burme 11 11 10.0 M Burmen 4 116721 CONTI D'ESTRAPAL (20 03) 6 Beiding 8 11 1 (50) JB (Effect 5 FF-F330 MANN OF MOSTERY (127) 60) P Hotto 10 30 12 C Mande 6 (31/745- 12 BUCHERON (697) Miss H Rodge 10 10 0 8 Folgen (3) 7 464P-31 RABES JOHER (250-9 0 Orled 10 10 9 8 Folgen (3) —7 declared — Minimum Reight: 10st. True https://doi.org/10.10s/10.00s/10s1/10s1/10s1/10s1/10s1/	### PATHWE: 7-4 Outlands Word, 7-2 Machined ### Outlands Word, 7-2 Machined ### Control ### Outlands Word, 7-2 Machined ### Others    5-25  BOYNE FAMILY MEMORIAL HANDICA
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6 0-40055 DESERVE BRIDGE (1.1) (CD) Nis-8 Johnson 8:10 7.49 Hogies (3) - S declared -METING: 2-1 Zultoon, 3-1 District Inland; 4-1 Nice Rosen, 3-2 Javiel Miss 8-1 Master Yoby, 18-1 Derring Bridge

### Other sports TODAY'S NUMBER

RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS LUDLOW 372 982 983 0891 261 970

Coloction: INCHCARLLOCH



FOLKESTONE 2.10: 1. CIRCUS GOLOURS (A P McCoy) 7-2; 2, Monks Solsom 9-4 (av. 3. Who Are | 7-1, 10 cen. 3/h, 1/h. U Jerions, Roys-ton), Totas 64-20; £1.10, £1.30, £3.30, DP. £E.50, CSF: £11.68. Trio: £9.70.

2.40: 1. BUCKLAND LAD (B Ferton) 4-1 ter, 2. Equity's Dering 10-1; 3. Pair Of Jacks 11-2, 12 ran. 7, 3. (0 Gress), Retembridge). Teter: £4,40; £1,80, £3,00, £1,70. DF: £21.10, CSF: £43.75, Tricost; £210.11, Tric. £17.50.

3.10: 1. VICOSA (Mr P Hartey) 7-1; 2. The Mine Capital 14-1: 3. Rows En Rose 8-1.

11 res. 3-1 for Ask The Governor (90): 4/2, shr.hd. fit Amer. Beneford Forum). Foto: C.7.00; £1-80. £7-70, £1-10. £7-83-60. CSF: £52-37, Tacest: £744-27, Tre: £159-20. 3.40; 1. ROSBILL (D B)me) 20-1; 2. Mostabli 8-1; 3. Hawthorne Gen 5-2, 6 ras. 9-4 fav Samply (801). 44, 5. (Mrs M. Jones, Lambourn). Tota: £24.10; £5.50, £1.90. DF:

4.10: 1. SORBERE (M. A Fingerold, 8-13 M. 2. Rocco 3-1; 2. Jim Bonie 11-1.6 ras. 1½, dist. (N Henderson, Lambourd, Total; 11.50; £1.40, £1.50, DP: £3.10. CSP: £2.68.

440: LSRDWIEDOSEMOS-1:2 trise Nog 3-1 f Ser; 3. Royal Ruler 6-1. 7 ran. 3-1 g for Rding Cop (Sch). 4, 1/4. (R Rose, Springton). Totar £5.80; £2.30, £2.50. DF. £10.30. CSF: £2.150. Placeport £1.313.30. Quadport £922.00. Place 8: £1.246.49. Place 8: £777.01. NOTTINGHAM

2.00; 1. ESPERTO (G. Bardeol) 7-1; 2. Balleta Boy 14-1; 3. Radasore Brandy 8-1, 15 cat. 4-1 for Esismo Kles. 44, 24; 0; 19 Pasce, Neumarket, Totas 28-20; 13-10, 22-90, 51-60. Duel Process: 1581-90. Computer Shright Foress: 198.45. Tricse: 2756.22. Trics 2227.70. 2.30: 1. WEST ESS GIFL (I. Dettor) 14-1; 2. Nervous Rex 4-1: 3. Market 19 1; 2. Nervous Rex 4-1; 3. Mejove 16-1. 6 rec. 4-11 fev Joint Venture (4th). 14. 314.

RACING RESULTS porley). Tetas: £5.00; £2.80, £1.40, £1.40. £7.40. GSF. £25.93. GSF. £15.12. Tilcast: £57.78. Tilc (P D Byans, Weishpool), Total £10.50; £1.50, £1.50, DP: £21.00, CSP: £59.53. 3.00: 1. SPLICING (M HE) 3-1: 2. Loose

Talk 5-2 fec 3. Sole Symptony 3-1. 2. 1995: 1-18, 5-2 fec 3. Sole Symptony 3-1. 10 res. 1-1, rik. (W. Hegges, Newmorke). Totac 15.40; £1.30, £1.30, £1.30, £7.53, £8. £10.48, Trice £5.90, £7.55 Governors Bream, Westch The Fire. 3.30: 1. TYMEERA (I Spoke) 14-1: 2. See Destrig 7-1: 2. Night Harmony 12-1: 4. Sweet Nature 9-1: 22 ram. 7-2 for Nisspanis, Str.-hd. 4: 6 Pelang, Coundings), Toker £17-80: £5.00, £2.20, £3.90, £2.00, £7: £145.30. 657: £123-£16. Tricast £1,261.£6. Trick £1,547.40. After a stewarts inquiry, plan-ings unstatement. Inputy, pleating untelested.
Placaport: £261,60. Quesiport: £8,10.
Placaport: Not won, Pool of £3,543,44 certed forward to Assort today.
Place 6: £170,62. Place 6: £31,58.

4.00: 1. HIGH SAROOUE (I Rok) 7-1-2. ismus 4-5 kg, 8. Heavy island 7-1. 12 ms. 1, 24h. P. Chapte-Heav, Marson). Tota: 58-90; £2-80, £110, £200 DF:£400, CSP £13-77, Tric: £21.10. 4.30: 1. MAPLE BAY (Argain Golfmore) 4-1: 2. Bettiechip Bruce 3-1 ftv; 3. Pine Essence 5-1. 12 rms. 1/2, 8. (A Bolkey, Tgr-

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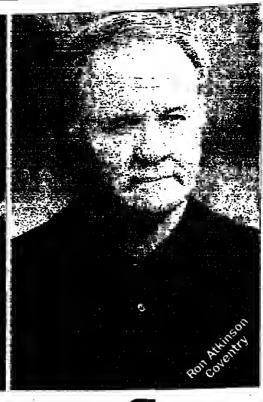
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# Drop zone: three from five will go

FEAR OF FALLING: Five Premiership managers are trying to avoid demotion to the Endsleigh League, a decline that dramatically reduces gate receipts, commercial income and TV revenue. Glenn Moore reports

Road this aftermoon when Ren Atkinson and Ray Wilkins will catch each other's eye and, briefly, remember better days chasing trophies at Old Trafford. Then they will turn again to the task in hand, that of lifting their respective teams, Coventry City and Queen's Park Rangers, out of the relegation

Both have been relegated before, Atkinson with Sheffield Wednesday six years ago, Wilkins as a young player with Chelsea in the Seventies, but the impact of those relegations is nothing to what it would be like this time around.

That is because relegation carries notes, "it will in no way make up the a greater penalty than ever before, shortfall with the Premiership." As the gap grows between the Pre-miership and the First Division, so does the cost of the drop.

When we were relegated last

year it wiped the thick end of two million pounds off the revenue account," said David Sheepshanks, chairman of ipswich Town, "Half of that was lost gate receipts, half was commercial income, the Sky TV moncy and so forth."

The calculations at Selhurst Park were even worse. "It cost us three million," said Ron Noades, the chairman of Crystal Palace.

The bad news for their counterparts at Coventry and QPR. Manchester City, Southampton and Bolton, the clubs under threat this season, is that the price of fadure is about to spiral.

has a year to run but an early renegotiation is anticipated. "I expect they will sit down this summer

There will be moments at Highitald and the new deal will be worth a 100 to 120 million pounds," said Noad-Atkinson and Ray Wilkins will es. "That is five million pounds a club. Anyone who goes down this season is kissing goodbye to four mil-lion on TV income alone. With gate receipts and other revenue they will

be losing five million." The current Premiership televi-sion deal is youth £1.5-£3m per club (the money is ment and appearance-linked). The current Endsleigh deal is worth less than £500,000. The Endsleigh League have already signed a new deal (with Sky) which will push television income to £750,000-£1.2m for First Division clubs next year but, as Sheepshanks

lpswich, like all relegated clubs, are cushioned by receiving half the base sum (about £500,000) from the Premiership as well as Endsleigh TV money. But as this expires after two

The last five games

Wimbledon (A) L 0-3; Man Utd (H) L 2-3; Bolton (A) D 1-1; West Harn (A) L 2-4; Southampton (H) W 2-1

Man Utd (A) L 0-1; Liverpool (H) W 1-0; Tottenham (A) L 1-3; Southampton (A) L 0-1; Botton (H) L 0-2 3/15

years, during which the clubs in the Premier League have been getting even richer, an instant return is imperative. Four clubs have bounced straight back in the last five seasons, one of them Crystal Palace two years ago. But, of the 10 that failed to do so, only Middlesbrough later got up. Notts County and Swindon even went down again while seven remain in the First Division.

"If you fail to get straight back then you have real problems," Noades said. "You have to decide when you go down if you can afford to keep what you have got. If you can you should be able to go back up. If you have to sell players it be-comes very hard."

Having kept most of their side in 1993, and gone straight back as champions, Palace sold the hulk of the team last summer. Some players wanted to go but, said Noades, sales were also forced by the bank.

cility by £3.7m from £6.7m. We had to sell to meet that and to cut wage bills – unless you do you are paying Premiership wages on Endsleigh income. Some of those Premiership wages on Endsleigh income. Some of those Premiership clubs must be crapping themselves. Coventry bought two players I could not afford to pay."

Coventry are one of only two clubs never to have been relegated from the top division. At the other extreme, Birmingham and Leicester have gone down nine times with Manchester City in danger of joining them.

For clubs of reasonable, but limited resources, such a yo-yo existence is increasingly likely. "I can see the same three clubs going up and down year after year," Noades said. "The Premiership clubs will be gaining so much income they will be able to cream off anyhody of any ability in the lower divisions.

17 Man City .......35 7 10 18 29 56 31 -27

19 Coventry ......34 6 12 16 39 60 30 -21

How they stand this morning

THE BATTLE FOR SURVIVAL

They reduced our overdraft fa- Their squads will get bigger while

A look at this year's First Division suggests the trend has already started. It may be open but it is not very good - 16 different clubs, two-thirds of the division, have filled the first three places at some time during the season. In the Premiership only seven clubs have done so, "People say we would not survive if we went up but we would have a different team then," Noades said, "With our new income level we could buy three of four

They would need them. If Bolton are relegated it will mean that, of 26 teams promoted since 1987, 15 have been relegated within four

F A Pts GD

seasons. Ten will have gone straight top division already seem an aeon back down (including six of the eight teams promoted through the keenly aware of the need to enable play-offs). The only team promotsuch teams to compete. "We have" ed through the play-offs to have taken a leading role in trying in survived more than three seasons persuade the Football League to is Blackburn, and they spent mil-lions to do so. "All the teams that talk to the Premier League about narrowing the gap." Sheepshanks said. "Otherwise clubs will yohave come up and been successful have spent money," noted Scott Sellars, who was twice promoted and is now with Bolton. "Blackburn and

Newcastle did. Middlesbrough spent enough to keep out of trou-ble." Middlesbrough have spent Palace, like the other clubs who went straight back (Nottingham Forest, Sheffield Wednesday and West Ham), do have the potential to generate decent income. Those who have not regained premier status have tended to be smaller clubs - Luton, Oldham, Miliwall, Charlton - clubs whose days in the

Remaining fixtures

Today: Sheff Wed (H); Apr 27: Aston Villa (A); May 5: Liverpool (H)

Today: Coventry (AI; Apr 27; West Ham (H)) May 5; Notum Forest (A) Today: QPR (H); Apr 17; Notum Forest (A);

May 5: Arsenal (A)

Villa and their stand-in centre-

Two of the five relegation

candidates. Coventry and

Queen's Park Rangers, tangle

at Highfield Road in a battle of

wits hetween Ron Atkinson

and the man he he may now re-

gret having dubbed "The Crab,"

Wilkins' chairman, Peter El-

back Ian Taylor.

Ray Wilkins.

Today: Man Utd (H); Apr.17: Newcastle (A); Apr 27: Bolton (A): May St Wimbledon (A)

"Communities like Stoke, Sunderland, Ipswich and Norwich. have good populations and sup-port. Their fans have the right to upport their club in the top league

As a small-town club lpswich are

if their club gets it right on and off the field. That club should be ailowed to be competitive. At present it is not a level playing field. am all for rewarding success with merit payments and television appearance money, but not at the price of penalising failure. The basic subside should cover more than 20 clubs.

"Half the Premiership clubs agree - the bottom half. Those which have flirted with danger themselves."

The thought will certainly cross a few chairmen's minds today, not that they will he able do anything about it now. At this stage, it is down to the managers, the players

and luck.
"Luck plays a part." Atkinson said, "but the most important factor is the mental toughness of your players. Sometimes your hero is someone you never expected it to be. This is a massive game for me and Ray. We will both be hoping we are the one commiserating the other at the end."

## Exiled Geordies hold key to Newcastle's fate

Aston Villa (A) L 0-3; Bischburn (H), W 1-0; Leeds (A) L 0-1; QPR (A) L 0-3; Covering (H) W 1-0; 6/15 16 Southampton ... 34 7 10 17 30 50 31 -20

ticker-tape which their followers once had on standby to celebrate the championship.

Close on the heels of Alan Shearer and Graham Fenton. the Typesiders who combined to secure Blackburn's dramatic victory over Kevin Keegan's side on Monday, come another pair of likely lads ready to do down their home-town team.

Brian Little, who brings Aston Villa to St James' Park tomorrow, had a black-and-white striped jersey as a boy and has cousins who are season-ticket holders. Tommy Johnson, whose attacking ability per-suaded Little to let Fenton go, joins the Toon Army when he is not playing. Newcastle, who may start

nine points behind Manchester United, suffered another setback in training yesterday when Keith Gillespie twisted an ankle which may prevent his facing Villa. Keegan can he excused for feeling it is time the leaders endured the odd twist of malign fate themselves. His old club Southampton, fighting

for Premiership survival, may Phil Shaw looks at the weekend's football programme Newcastle's path like the just be the team to inflict one. Both the Saints manager and director of football, Dave Merrington and Lawrie McMenemy

respectively, are Geordies, while the captain, Barry Venison, once led Newcastle, Moreover, their need for points is, if anything, more pressing than United's.

If there is to be an upset, Matthew Le Tissier will surely have to be back to his best. The

Chelsea v Leeds Chelsea v Leeds
Manager Hoddle kooks set to stock with the Chelsea side on duty at Bolton on Monday – even though a 2-1 defeal extended their run without a win to six Premiership matches. Leeds will again be without 19-goal leading scorer Yeboah, who has not yet recovered from the knee injury, sustained on unternational duty with Ghana, which has kept him out of the last four matches. Worthington is back in contention after nyury.

In all they visualized Brown for suspended Summerbee, whose defensive dutes will be taken over by Brightwell. Roser might have to be content well. Roser might have to be content with a precipitation of the former England Under-21 utility, man with a place on the bench again as manager Ball may continue with Quinn with Kavelashvili. The Owis' middleider How with a place of the former England Under-21 utility, man with a place on the bench again as manager Ball may continue with Quinn with Kavelashvili. The Owis' middleider How.

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We former frigand Under-21 utility we f

Coventry v QPR

Shaw, ruled out of both Easter matches with a fractured cheekbone, is expected to return, wearing a protective mask, to boost Coventry's defensive ranks. Hall could claim Burrows' left-back to boost Queen's Park Rangers will select throm a full-strength squad, with midfielder at the Barker available again after serving a two match ban.

West Ham v Bolton

Street Ham ville Todd, the Bolton

manager Little is expected to keep faith
with the side which overcame Southmit the side whose 2-1 victory over
with a hamstring injury. Action Villa's

starts a time-ematch ban McKintwo but the side whose 2-1 victory over
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and Moncur come not contention for west and Moncur come not central to rewith a hamstring injury. Action the content of the with the side whose 2-1 victory over
with

score from open play this sea-Beasant said. Southampton also son. But Dave Beasant, the former Newcastle keeper who is likely to be recalled by Mer-

Channel Islander has yet to

" come this evening.
"Matt's started to do things Man City v Shoffield Wed

Middlesbro v Wimbledon

to avenge. Against a feam un-beaten in 19 games, and rein-

in training that give us all hope."

rington, believes Le Tissier forced by another Tync and could be hailed as "Wor Matmotion man, Steve Bruce, it is a tall order.

which for some clubs may prove the point of no return

since Newcastle's promotion, two Easter wins suggest Little have a dubious FA Cup defeat is countenancing no complacency. Another sub-plot involves Shaka Hislop and

Dwight Yorke, founds and colleagues with Trinidad and To-While Villa have taken a bago, although Keegan will lis, has described the match as Team news

hamstring injury, could return for For-est, who must decide whether to re-call Lyttle at right-back after Haland took his place at Elland Road. Rovers will

Southampton v Man Utd The Saints have doubts over midfield-er Venison (back), defenders Monkou

solitary point from five meetings.

Ifful and Hall (call) and winger Heaney the former England Under-21 utility man lieg). They may recall goalkeeper Beas-who has made just four appearances and in favour of Grobbeland after Mon-this term, as cover for ankle injury vic-day's 3-0 reversal at Aston Villa. The day's 3-0 reversal at Aston Villa. The Republic of Ireland midfielder hearie, who has served a one-match ban. Steve Bruce and Phil Noville come back into contention for United, who are unbeaten in 18 League and Cup games.

**West Ham v Bolton** 

Newcastie v Aston Villa Magpies' manager Keegen - desper-are for a victory to keep his side's titie challenge alive - could give Northern Ireland international Gillespie a place in tomorrow's starting line-up after leav-ing him out for the last seven match-es. Gillespie came on as a substitute to help Newcastle come from behind to beat Queens Park Rangers last Sat-orday, but may miss out due to an ankle mury sustained in training yesterday. England defender Howey is still absent with a hamstring injury. Aston Villa's manager Little is expected to keep faith

City, directly above both teams. would probably prefer them to draw. Of City's match with Sheffield Wednesday, Alan Ball said: "We must make sure we don't lose." With fixtures against Villa and Liverpool to finish with, they need to win.

Like Wednesday. West Ham have nothing to play for in terms of Europe or safety, which showed in their lethargy at Liverpool on Monday. Bolton's fighting finale may have come too late, but the Hammers will have to be more alert today to stop them departing with honour.

By the time Newcastle step out, neighbouring Wearside could be Premiership territory again. Sunderland will be promoted if they win at Sheffield United, the First Division's form side, and Crystal Palace fail to beat Southend. With Howard Kendall lying in wait for his protégé. Peter Reid. Sunderland may have to wait.

Meanwhile, Palace must look to their one-time tenants, Charlton, to loosen Derby's promotion place tomorrow.

the thousands around the coun-

squirm. I thought of the times

Old Trafford, Roker Park, Lof-

This led me, perhaps irrever-

ently, to thoughts of the display

But somehow such footballing

memories seemed appropri-

#### Rangers set for final lap in title race Scottish football

Today Rangers go in search of one of three wins which will wrap up their eighth successive Scottish championship. Walter Smith's side face lowly Partick Thistle at Ibrox with a point to prove after Wednesday's 2-0 de-

feat at Hearts. Victory would put Rangers seven points clear of Celtic, who face Hibernian at Easter Road tomorrow. Assuming Celtic take full points from their last four games, Rangers need three

wins to take the title. Ally McCoist is rated "thich and go" by Smith to face Thistle because of a groin injury, while Gordon Durie is recalled: lan Ferguson is out - he starts a two-match suspension - hut Erik Bo Andersen, Peter van Vossen and Ian Durrant are

added to the squad. At Hibs, Celtic will he without the injured John Hughes but welcome back John Collins, grip on the second automatic who missed the midweek draw against Kilmarnock.

### wanted to be with other supporters sharing a common

Saturday 15th April, 1989 is a date that sticks in the memory. Liverpool versus Nottingham Forest, FA Cup semi-tinal. Hillsborough, Sheffield, The memory sticks in the throat.

Some seven years on, the very mention of the name Hillsborough still instantly conjures up in the mind those nightmarish television images of panie; of tears of hopelessness; of sideways-turned faces squeezed against cage fencing: of advertising hoardings being used as stretchers for the injured, dead and dving; of sorrowful comforting: of tragedy.

All week Liverpool, Sheffield and Nottingham mourned as one, united by their shared experience. All week England mourned as one, united by the thought that there but for the

grace of God go 1. How I would have liked to have been supporting my team, Chelsea, m that semi-final. How grateful I now was that yet again they weren't good enough.

All through the week the people of Liverpool turned Anfield into a shrine. But for most football fans across the nation, the following Saturday was the first opportunity to show their grief, their shock, their horror and their support for the scarred and grieving.

I was staying away that weekend, and just as Remembrance Sunday draws me to church. I found myself drawn to a foothall match. I wanted to be with other supporters, showing respect, sharing a common prayer. So I went to watch Hereford United play Doncaster Rovers

had no significance whatsoever, both having settled into positions just below half-way in the table. It is one of the most memorable events of my life. Hereford fielded a young Darren Peacock and Doncaster a not-so-young Gerry Daly.

Since I hadn't come to support either team I went through the first turnstile I came to. This was a mistake. Inside. I found a cage custom-designed for either orang-utangs or travelling supporters. There was plenty of space but, for the first time. I felt uneasy being behind bars in a football ground.

Beyond this chilly, shady area was sunshine and fencefree terracing and I managed to negotiate a transfer to a sunny spot among the home FAN'S EYE VIEW No 145 Hillsborough

CLIVE TRUSSON

supporters, it was announced six minutes past three, the time the Liverpool v Forest match was stopped. The players and match officials stopped their warm-up exercises and gathered around the centre circle.

A local vicar stood with them. a microphone in his hand, and the Salvation Army lined up on the touchline. The service began to a con-

was clear to all that this service that the game would kick off at was so much more important.

so much more necessary than the football we'd paid to watch. The vicar began, "Last Saturday football supporters gathered together, just as we are gathered here today, to watch a football match. They were ordinary people like you and

I don't recall what he said next, my thoughts were already gregation of 1,800 brethren of with those killed, maimed and the family of football lovers. It mentally scarred on Leppings the seats began to stand up like a slow-motion Mexican wave, It was a deliberate, if uncon-

The vicar led the prayer. In Hereford Cathedral they would have knelt; at Hereford United they stood, it seemed right to stand, just as football lans had stood for over a century, just as those who had died had stood. We stood, we prayed, we remembered.

As we were asked to observe the silence, a young boy in front of me propped his inflatable skeleton against the crash barrier so that it was standing torc. a chap near me stopped eating his pasty, another switched off the small radio that had seemingly been glued to his car. I looked around the ground.

ate: the dead of Hillsborough leved their football 100. When the vicar spoke again,

Heads were hung. I thought of sheets had been handed out at the turnstiles, but I had missed try doing the same thing. Those out. The Sally Army struck up dreadful images flashed across and the vicar led the singing. He my mind again making me sang from his heart. The crowd

sang from theirs. I'd been in a crush situation: at When the band stopped play-Stamford Bridge, Upton Park, ing there was a further 10 second silence. In Hereford Cathedral tus Road and Wembley, I rethey would have then sat down called struggling for breath in in silence: at Hereford United the urgency to get in to sec they started applauding. The Chelsea v New York Cosmos, ground reverberated to the kind of handelapping more likely to be heard in the theatre. But it Johan Crawff put on and Butch Wilkins' brilliant late equaliser.

The match was a regular enough affair. Hereford went 2-0 up before Doncaster railed one back. Their fans cele frated by shaking their inflatable bananas and by climbing up the he invited us to sing "Abide With Me". Apparently song fences had to come down.

33

Cantona F

the cold l

Aidr cha Trar

Nampras puts pressure

on Muster

seemed fitting and was uplifting.

## • Aldridge in charge at **Tranmere**

Football

PHIL SHAW

John Aldridge was promoted to the boss class vesterday as Tranmere Rovers, hovering just above the First Division relegation zone, ended the reign of the most successful manager in

their history, John King. The 37-year-old Aldridge, a Republic of Ireland striker whose experience ranges from Newport County through Liverpool to Real Sociedad, becomes player-manager. King, who was in his second spell with Tranmere and will be 58 on Monday, is pondering the offer of a move "upstairs".

It was King who hrought Aldridge hack to Merseyside from Spain in 1991, since when he has scored 136 goals for Tranmere. The signing was his most inspired during a nine-year sojourn in which Tranmere rose from the former Fourth Division to within a whisker of what is now the Premiership. Three

times they lost in the play-offs. This season, however, Tran-mere have struggled and go into today's match with Leicester only four points better off than 22nd-placed Oldham, King, who had two years left on his contract, learned about the change when he was summoned to meet the chairman, Frank Corfe, in the morning,

Aldridge, who will work on a two-year contract, said: "Ideally I'd have liked the circum-

to be better, but that's fontball. The main objective is retain our status. I'll carry on with the existing backroom staff until the end of the season and then de-

cide what moves to make."

King said: "It hasn't really sunk in yet. It takes a lot of accepting but you have got to be big enough in football. I've been offered a consultancy role, but I can't make a sudden decision over my future."

Arsenal have made a fresh bid for Alan Stubbs, the Bolton defender. Bruce Rioch, under whom Stubbs was captain of the Lancashire club, has offered 12m up front with a further £1m based on appearances and caps. Bolton will not respond until their Premiership fate is resolved, but are expected to

want a bigger down payment. Howard Kendall, the Sheffield United manager, has gone public about his interest in signing lan Rush when the veteran striker leaves Liverpool

Huddersfield Town yesterday terminated the contract of Craig Whitington, the striker who was this week suspended by the Fontball Association until 1 November after two separate drug tests revealed cannabis use. Whitington, 25, tested positive in March last year, and again in January

Geoff Heady, the Huddersfield chairman, said; "Given the support provided after the first test, the club feel extremely disappointed and hadly let stances in which I've taken over down by the player's actions.



Amateur hour: Tiger Woods is enjoying himself too much at college to turn pro

## An early end to Sherry's fairy-tale

Gordon Sherry hoped to make the top-24 finishers and earn a return invitation to the Masters next year. Making the cut would be

hard enough.
No British Amateur cham-pion had qualified for the final two rounds since Peter McEvoy in 1978. After a first round 78, Sherry, fourth in last summer's Scottish Open, needed something of a miracle to break that fruitless

The thing about Augusta National is that h chooses its own fairy-tales. Yesterday morning, bogeys at the third and fourth, where he tangled with the sand both times, put Sherry eight over par. After his 43 on the front nine on Thursday, the Stirling University student said he tried to relax and enjoy himself. Again paired with the uncommunicative Fred Couples, Sherry was again finding that difficult.

Couples had his own problems. The very fact that the American and the Scot were playing together again on the second day, when there is a redraw in score order, meant Couples had also ended the first day six over. Neither was living up to their differing expectations.

As the recent US Players champion. Couples was a hot favourite to win his second Green Jacket. Two weeks ago he won \$630,000 (£420,000) to push his career earnings in official US Tour events alone in sight of the \$8

A tall order for a tall man. An amateur in a professional world is allowed to dream.

Andy Farrell watches the British Amateur champion struggle to live Amateur champion struggle to live up to expectations in the Masters

million mark. Sherry, as he turns an expensive hobby into his profession, has thousands of pounds to repay his parents on a student loan.

Holing a 10-foot putt at the seventh brought a smile to Sherry's lips, as did another hirdie at the 11th, after a number of missed chances. He has gone down well with the galleries. They should pull him down and rebuild him as a condo," said one spectator.

But the name on everyone's lips here is that of Tiger Woods. There are expectations and expectations. It must be difficult to lift a club after Jack Nicklaus has said: "This kid is the most fundamentally sound golfer I have ever seen at almost any age. He will be the favourite here for the next 20 years. Arnold Palmer and I agree if you add his Green Jackets and my Green Jackets, this kid should win more.

For a 20-year-old with only a blue blazer in his wardrobe, winning more than 10 Masters is undreamable. Who would have thought Seve Ballesteros and Greg Norman would so far only have two Green Jackets between them?

And then there is Norman on Woods. After his 63 on Thursday, the "Great White Shark" told reporters: "The way I felt in our practice round was the way you would feel about playing with me."

Woods shot a 75 on Thursday and was a further two over to the turn yesterday. Speculation has been plentiful that he will give up his studies at Stanford and collect on some fat contract offers, but he has said, "I'm having too good a time at col-

Couples and Sherry both found the water at the parthree 12th, but the American enjoyed himself more from then on. A birdie putt at the last gave him a chance of making the cut at two under. Sherry found another bunker and finished his amateur career with a bogey and a 77 for II over.

That's the worst experience I have ever had on a golf course," said the 22-yearold. "I haven't shot scores like that for four years. I knew the greens would be tricky but people almost put the fear of death into you. I've learnt a lot. Another time I'll know you can't worry about the course. There are spots to hit the ball and you have to hit

He added: "I'm just another British amateur to miss the cut. But I'll be hack. Maybe not next year, but I'll

His first professional event will be in next month's Italian Open. He was asked how it felt to be a pro. "I haven't earned a penny yet." In the profession that only comes

### Cantona kept out in the cold by France

Eric Cantona is unlikely to play for France in this summer's European Championships in England despite being praised by the French national coach, Aime Jacquet, for his current

form recently, scoring seven goals in his last eight games for successful as a goalscorer in Eng-Manchester United in their land because there was no tight rise to the top of the Premier marking and he enjoyed a free | League administered by the French sports daily L'Equipe he had no reasoo to change his mind ahout calling him up. Jacquet, careful not to alien-

ate Cantona, left the door slightly aiar in case injuries promoted him to fall back on the player he once appointed team captain but his statements left little room for doubt.

to Cantona or his club manager, Alex Ferguson, for three months, said he had already made his decision on Cantona. "I have already said that his preseoce would force me to change everything and that it is Cantona has been in superbased out the right time," he said.

Jacquet said Cantona was

ternational competition. "1 know how to use Eric - as a playmaker and not as a striker." he

Cantona won the last of his 45 caps for France, who are unbeaten in 20 matches, in January last year but he lost his place when he was suspended after his assault on a Crystal Palace fan at Jacquet, who has not spoken Selhurst Park later that month.

### Game welcomes new era

ice hockey

British ice hockey contemplates a new cra this weekend when a meeting in Blackpool will sort out the sport's new structure.

Seven clubs. - Cardiff, Sheffield, Maochester, Basingstoke, Bracknell, Newcastle, Ayr and Guildford - have all joined up for the new Super tingham waiting in the wings. The rest of the clubs meet in

two divisions, a Premier and First Division, under the present governing body, the British Ice Hockey Association. Adrian Florence, the chairman

of the working party looking into the new league structure, said: "We're going to Blackpool and come midnight Sunday the whole thing will be sorted out. No ifs - it will be sorted."

In a revolutionary change to the rules, there will be no drawn games in the BNIHL. If the are level at the end of normal time, games will go into sudden-death overtime and the the seaside town to decide their side that scores first wins. If afown future with the formation ter overtime the teams are still of the British National Ice tied, theo a penalty shoot-out Hockey League, which will have will decide the winner,

However, the most important key to the new structure will he the club's financial welfare. Premier Division status will only go to sides able to guarantee a minimum expenditure of £140,000 while the minimum for First Division membership will be

For the first time in the sport, there will he a professional side from Northern Ireland competing in the league. Previously teams from the province played in the Scottish Divisions or played purely recreational hockey.

were to have a competitive al- Premier League teams are externative to the Super League pected to compete in the new for teams with rinks that did not National League. ternative to the Super League

come up to their criteria, "It will have to be seen as viable and the level of play in the Premier I foresee as being as good as it was this season.

"If we can achieve that, then the fans will turn out to watch it in increased numbers. The sport is growing and we must re-flect that added interest. What is in nobody's interest is teams trying to compete with the hig venue outfits and hankrupting themselves."

With teams like Miltor Keynes, Slough, Humberside, Fife and Whitley Wartiors set Florence said the main aims to be included, half this season's

### **Britain vent** anger on hosts

Hockey BILL COLWILL

reports from Atlanta

United States Great Britain

David Whittle, Great Britain's manager, was a relieved man after his team's win against the nost nation, the United States, in their opening game of the Six Nations pre-Olympic tournament here yesterday.

Hours of negotiation followed the team's arrival last Tuesday, as the attempt was made to salvage something out of an appalling series of organisational hlunders which had threatened the tournament. Even so, Britain were playing on an inadequate warmup pitch to which the coach, Jon Copp, attributed the lacklustre British performance. "We played as if we were playing on

a poor pitch. We were looking as if we had had a bad day at the office. There was little flow in our game." Certainly the players were very wary of the bumpy surface.

Rob Thompson scored his 50th international goal when he put Britain into the lead after 15 minutes. Restricting the Americans to one shot and a fumbled penalty corner, Britain had dominated the first half without a a great deal to show for their efforts.

Stunned by an equalising goal from Larry Amar three

Britain stepped up a gear, scor-ing four times in a 13-minute spell which strongly featured both Nick and Rob Thompson, although the goals came from Jason Laslett, Calum Giles - a cracking shot after the American goal had miraculously survived four previous British attempts at a penalty corner and two from Russell Garcia. In between the Egyptian Ahmed Elma Ghraby had scored a secood for the host nation.

minutes after the interval,

Jon Clark, the former Slough goalkeeper now the United States coach, was disappointed with his team, particularly with the lack of goals from his two Dutch strikers, Steven van Randwijck and Mark Wentges. Randwijck and Mark Wentges.
GREAT BRITAIN: D Lucies (first Caristeau):
J Wyott (Reeding), J Holls (Oil Lughtonians); G Fordham (Hounslow), Kathir Balder (Carinotk), 5 Hazikt (Hounslow); J Shaw (Southgate), R Gandin (Pole Bancelona), R Thiaspeon (Woutslow), J Laskett (capt, Teddington), N Thompson (Oid Lucytonians), Substitutes used: 18 Persyl (Reading), C Glace (Harant), 6 Mayer (Carinotk), Some Singh (Southgate),
UNITED STATES: S Wagner, II Steffers, B Manquin, S Darelson, P Syless, N Butcher, Larnar (capt, S Jernings; M Wenges, Ahmed Elma Ghaby, S van Randwijdt, Sathstitutes used: R Langord, 8 Schledom, J ITNell, 5 Wiljams.

Umphres: R O'Connor Jirli, Z Irlan (Pakı. Jane Sixsmith, the all-time leading British goalscorer, will win her 100th British cap against the Netherlands at the National Stadium in Milton Keynes today. Britain are defending a 17-game undefeated run which includes a 2-2 draw with the Dutch, who are European champions, in the Olympic qualifier in Cape Town last year.

### McCarthy pleads innocence Mick McCarthy, the Republic

of Ireland manager, yesterday claimed that he was an innocent victim of last season's FA Cup final ticket scandal. Two Norwegian fans paid

touts £350 each for £60 tickets for the match between Manchester United and Everton last May and these were traced back to McCarthy as part of his allocation of four from Millwall where he was then the manag-

This led to the FA yesterday banning him from receiving Sup final tickets for 10 years but, speaking in Duhlin yester-

Sampras puts

pressure

on Muster

Pete Sampras recovered from

losing the first set to heat

David Prinosil, of Germany.

6-7, 7-6, 6-3 and reach the semi-

finals of the Hong Kong Open

had difficulty containing the ag-

gressive serve-and-volley tactics

of the eighth seed, but raised his

game in the closing stages to

maintain the pressure on

Thomas Muster for the world

Sampras, who trails Muster

by only 72 points in the rank-

ings, admitted: "I did not real-

ly think I was in control of the

match at any time. I had a lot

of break points in the first set

The other semi-final will be

between Michael Chang, the

holder, and the unseeded Aus-

but did not convert them."

tralian Todd Woodbrid

No 1 ranking.

The American world No 2

day, McCarthy pleaded his innocence. "I gave these four tickets to a well-respected friend of mine at face value and he informed me that he had attended the game with another friend and their respective sons.

I believed him." McCarthy said.

The problem is that I didn't hold on to the four ticket stubs. Even if I had given the tickets to Mother Teresa, I wouldn't have got off with it," he added.

"If this whole husiness stamps out ticket touting, I will be very happy. I deplore ticket touting - I always have and I al-ways will," McCarthy said.

Dennis Amiss, the Warwickshire

chief executive, yesterday added

his voice to the calls for Ian

Botham to be brought into the

England set-up to kick-start

the national side's flagging for-

The former England batsman

joined Derbyshire and

Northamptonshire officials -

who have nominated Botham to

be a selector - in pressing for the

great all-rounder to be involved

Malcolm for the series of con-

which appeared towards the end

of England's recent tour of

South Africa m which Mal-

manager, Raymond Illingworth.

early after an unhappy couple of

Malcolm, who returned home

in the international scene.

**Amiss backing Botham** 

**TCCB reprieves Malcolm** 

The Test and County Cricket interviews, but in a statement the

Board has decided to take no TCCB said: "The Board accepts

action against the Derbyshire that Devon Malcolm's motive in

and England fast bowler Devon giving the interviews was not fi-

troversial newspaper articles Board that, after payment of all

colm raised the issue of racism to take the matter further, in

and also criticised the tour particular not to institute dis-

place.

Oldham relish humble home advantage Rugby League

DAVE HADFIELD

Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home - especially, it seems, when home is as irredeemahly humble as Water-sheddings. Visiting sides detest the place, to the point of grumbling with some justification that playing anything called Super League there invites action under

the Trades Descriptions Act. Oldham take a different view of the dilapidated ground at which they play Leeds this evening; they know it frequently gives them an edge. Their coach, Andy Goodway.

Their coach, Andy Goodway. "It's a very uninviting place to been omitted after Currie has not gone quite so far as to go," Hugh McGahan, the Leeds described their excuse that their

Speaking on BBC Radio 5 Live, Amiss said: "I believe Botham has got to be involved.

He was such a great player and

he has his heart in the right

a selector, his sheer pr sence

would be a huge beneut to the

England players. I've never seen

an England team lacking so

much confidence as the one at

the end of the South Africa tour

and in the World Cup. They are

good players, but they need to

nancial. He has satisfied the

expenses, he has not profited fi-

nancially from the interviews.

ciplinary proceedings... He re-

mains eligible for selection for

England in future. Devon Mal-

"The Board has decided not

we their confidence restored."

"Even if he wasn't able to be

claim they would have beaten manager, said. "Oldham have a Wigan in their opening match if big, rough pack of forwards it had been played there rather than at Boundary Park. But he makes no apology for saying that

it would have been much closer. Since then, they have beaten Halifax at Watersheddings and come away from Paris with a draw that should have been a win, all of which suggests that they are not the pushovers that their first effort implied. Goodway will have to find a

replacement for the winger, Rob Myler, who has a hroken jaw, but Leeds, without a single point so far this season, could be in for another trying time.

and have shown that they are not going to be also-rans. Leeds' own pack is without Neil Harmon, but Adrian Morley returns after injury.

Paris St-Germain, at home to the pointless Workington Town tonight, are also without a broken jaw victim, their Australian stand-off, Todd Brown. The London Broncos coach.

Tony Currie, has dropped two players from tomorrow's side to play at Sheffield after they arrived ate for training. The scrumhalf, Leo Dynevor, and the forward, Russell Bawden, have both

Langer and Justin Bryant come into the line-up. Wigan, who go to Castleford tomorrow, are willing to trans-

bus was late as "pathetic". Kevin

fer their vastly experienced prop forward, Kelvin Skerrett, in order to try to bring their wage bill within the salary cap that is to be introduced.

Wigan, who will face a reunion with their former goalkicker, Frano Botica, if he recovers from a side strain, will have one potential taker in Warrington, who have admitted chasing Skerrett, while his former club, Bradford, who meet St Helens tomorrow in a Wembley dress rehearsal, could also be interested.

#### SPORTING DIGEST Australian Rules AFL: Adelande 21.16 (142) by Geesong 12.6 (78).

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston S Minneacta 6: New York Yankees S Kansas City 3; Detroit 1 Seemile 9; Mikhankee O Oskland 11; Chicago 3 Terra 5 1;1 dras); Baltimore 14 Cleveland 4; Toronto 7 California 4. NA. ONAL LEAGUE: Pissburgh 5 Montreal 6; San Diego 2 Atlanta 1; Cincirnati 4 Houston 9; Colorado 7 New York Mets 3; Los Angeles

Baskethali The International Baskethall Federation (Fiba) yesterday rejected an appeal by Barcelonia against the refereeing of Thursday's European Club Championship final, which they lost 67-68 to Panathinations of Greece. Barcelona's coach. Attor Camin Reports was the

dramatic climax, but his protests were ignored. ENROPEAN CLUB CHAMPHONSHIP (Parle, Thursday) Finel: Penethinatios (Gr. 67 Bacelona 86. Third place play-off: CSVA Moscow 74 Real Medrid 73. NBA: Marni 115 Millianukee 105; New Jersey 100 Chicago 113; New York 97 Ceveland 101; Houston 113 Deriver 109; Portland 11,4 Del-las 99; LA Cippers 101 Golden Spare 111.

coach, Aitor Garcia Reneses, was un-happy about two alleged mistakes by the referees in the final seconds of a

Boxing

Scott Welch, the British heavyweight champion, has been ordered to defend his title against Herbie Hide, the former World Boding Organistation champion. Hide, the 24-year-old Norwich-based fighter, has not stepped Into the ring competitively since losing his world orthe America's Ridick Bowe in Las Vedes 13 months ago. gas 13 months ago.

Cricket

Malcolm Marshall, the former West indes tas bowler who is beginning a three-year contract with Hampshire as first-team coach, has been approached by the West Indies Board of Control to assist its new team manager, Cilve Loyd. The county articipate that Marshall will be able to combine both Jobs.

the ease to combine both jobs.

The Ken't captain, Mark Benson, seems certain to miss the start of the new season after damaging knee figaments during a training session.

PEPSI CUIP ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL TOUR-NAMENT (Sharjah): Pakistan bi India by 38 runs. Pakistan 271 for 5 (5) overs; Aarat Sohal 1051 hold 233 (47 20 overs; S V Manjrekar 59; Mushtan Ahmed 4-47). TOUR MATCH (St George's, Greneda) First day of from: West Indes Presdent's XI 117 for 1 v New Zeeland (score at kmoh).

Football The Manchester United midfielder Roy

The Manchester United midfielder Roy Keane has been provisionally omitted from the Republic of Ireland squad for the International friendly against the Czech Republic In Prague on 24 April. He may be added to Mick McCarthy's list if he escapes suspension for his sending-off against Russia last month. Three Under-21 players, Kenny Cun-raingham (Wimbledon), Gareth Farrelly (Aston Villa) and Keith O'Neill (Norwich) (Aston Villa) and Keith O'Neill (Norwich) are in the senior squad for the first time. are in the senior squad for the first time. REPUBLIC OF IRELAND SQUAD (International friendly v Casels Republic, Strahov stackum, Prague, 24 April; A Kelly Shefield (Inti), Bonner (Calici, Given (Backburn); Kennat (Blackburn); G Kelly (Leeds Unti), Phelan (Chelseal, Shaumbon (Aston Vita), McGrath (Aston Vita), Saha (Loventry), Babb (Liverpool), Cunningham (Wholsedon). Houghton (Crystel Palses), Townsond (Aston Vita), Makheer (Liverpool), McLoughton (Portstrouth), Parselly (Aston Vita). Reunedy (Liverpool), Quinn (Marchester Chy), Aldridge (Tranners), Casearino (Marsellet, O'Neill (Norwich).

Paul Gascoigne will play at Highbury in an Arsenal shirt on 8 May. The Rangers and England midfielder will join the Chelsea manager, Glenn Hoddle, in the Gunnars side for Paul Merson's testimonial match against an International XI. We had asked Paul to play for around 20 minutes or so because the insurance premium allowing him to play

The second secon

a full match was very expensive," Frank McLintock, the match organiser, sald. "But Paul offered to pay half the amount in order for him to play a full

The Netherlands will meet Brazil in an international friendly on 31 August to mark the opening of the new Amster-dam Arena. The 50,000 capacity all-

season.

The head of Italy's players' union said yesterday that the planned Serie A strike on 20 April had been "temporarily suspended." Sergio Campana said that the union had decided to lift the immediate threat of a strike as agreement had been reached on a number of important issues, including a guarantee fund to help players whose clubs folded. Other issues, under discussion, including the said of the players whose clubs folded. er issues under discussion include maintaining limits on players from outside the European Union in the wake of the European Court's recent ruling in the Bosman case.

Brazil's former World Cup captain, Socrates, has resigned as coach of the Ecuadorean club, Liga Deportiva Uni-

Roy Artken, the Aberdeen manager, has signed a new contract that will keep him at Pittodrie for a further three years. THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Pontins Lengue First Division: Notingtom Forest 0 Leads 1: Wolves 1. Transmere 2. Second Division: Braciford City 2 Sunderland 3. Avon Insurance Combination Second Division: Braciford City 2 Sunderland 3. Avon Insurance Combination Second Division: Braciford 7. O. Icia Lengue First Division: Britericay 3 Barking 0. Third Division: Aveley 1. Wesidatone 1; Epsom & Ewel 11. Ting 1. Cariton Trophy semi-fisual replay: Hungerford 1. Carwey Island 2. Great Millis Lengue Premier Division: Cott Down 2. Marigotised 2. Individual 1. Jewson Eastern Lengue Premier Division: Lowestoft 0. Wetton 1; Woodbndge 2 Hanwerh 3. Dutch Lengue: De Granfschap 1. (Visceal 49) PSV Ennihoven 1. Unity for 14, Vint 88), Turkish Cup final first leg: Galatasaray 1. (Sounders pen 5) Fenchance 0. Libertadorea Cup first round Group Five: River Plate (Arg) Minerven (Ven) 0. THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Port

Heavy snow caused the suspension of second-round play in the Tsunnya Open in Kawanishi, Japan, yesterday. When the action was curtailed Japan's Tsuyoshi Yoneyame and Stewert Ginn, of Australia were on top of the leader board, esc with a three-under-par total of 141.

HOCKEY
SDE-NATION ROUND-ROBEN PRE-OLYMPIC
TOURNAMENT (Internal): Thereday's late results: Palasten 4 Argentina 1; India 3 South Kone O; Grest Britain 5 United States 2.
NATIONAL INTER-LEASURE TOURNAMENT (Nition Keymes) Pool One-Harborne O Bronsley 2: Pool Two: Harripotaed O Lewes O; Ipswich O Warmigton 2.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP Pool 3 (Englishment): Thursday's falls results Great Britain 2 (R Stachen, D McLeven) Switchend 7. MRLL Boston 3 Hartford 2; Onova 3 Pittsburgh 5; Philadelphie 3 Morrielel 2; Weshington 2 New Jersey 3; Chicago 5 Toronto 2; St Louis 2 Col-manto 3.

Rugby League OPTUS CUP: Bristiane Broncos 28 South Queensland Crushers 8.

**Rugby Union** 

CLUB MATCH (Thursday): Lichfield 17 HM Pris-Speedway

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP British semi-final (Ox-ford): Postponed (waterlogged track). Re-arranged for Finlay 19 April. erangeo for Finally 19 April.

PREMIER LEAGUE (Thursday): Inswich 50 (C Louis 13, J Doncaster 10) Poole 46 (C Boyce 14, L Gurnessad 11, T Otsoon 13): London 50 (L Adams 13, K Tatum 12, P Hurry 10 Widnerhampton 46 (M Kertson 12); Sheffield 50 (S Embelho 14, R Kessler 14, S Smith 10, Southsh Monachis 46 (M Fans 12, S Affordo 8); Michesbrugh 15 Hull 3 labendoned after four heets than to unstellar the consideration.

ESTORIL OPEN (Estorii, Por) Men's eingles, second round: F Clavel (Spi bt S Pescosoli-

do (R) 7-6 6-1; C Costa (Sp) bt B Mota (Por) 6-2 7-5. Quarter-finator T Muster (Aur) bt F Claver (Sp) 6-4 6-2; A Goudeni (I) bt T Car-boneli (Sp) 6-3 6-1; P Haertrus: Pleath bt R Fromberg (Aus) 2-6 6-4 6-4; A Corrette (Sp) bt C Costa (Sp) 7-5 7-5.

HOME KONE OPEN Mem's singles, quarter-finale: P Sampras (US) bt II Pmos3 (Ger) 6-77-6-8-3; J Stementh (Neth) bt S Matsuc-la (Japan) 8-3 2-6 7-6; T Woodbridge (Aus) bt R hrajicek (Neth) 6-4 7-8; M Chang (US) bt M Damm (Cz Rep) 6-0 3-8 6-3.

BRDIAN OPEN (New Death) Ments strages, guar-tur-funds: A Factulescu (Ger) to 1 Gernard (Fr) 4-8 7-5 6-0; B Black (Zim) br. C Ceram (R) 3-6 5-1 7-5; T Engust (Gwe) br. J Reuman (Fr) 6-3 6-3; J Stark (US) br. S Stoffe (Aus) 6-2 3-6 7-6. 6-3; J. Stark (J/S) bt. S. Stoffe (Aus) 6-2: 3-6.7-6.
BAUSCH AND LOMB WOMEN'S CHAMPRONSHIP (Amelia Island, Floride) Singles, third
round: C. Martinez (ISp) of J. Hussrova (Sloveh)
6-0: 6-0: A. Sanchez Vicario (ISp) bt. T. Jecmenca
(Yog) 4-6: 6-3: 6-1; S. Hack (Ger) bt. C. Rubur,
(US) 6-1: 6-3; M. Pernandez (US) bt. P. Suarez
(Aug) 7-6: 6-3; M. Perce (Fr) bt. A. Midler (US)
6-3: 6-1; J. Spirice (Rom) bt. V. Ruano-Pasqual
(Sp) 7-5: 6-0; M. McGrath (US) bt. W. Probst (Ger)
6-2: 6-1; 23. Schett (Aut) bt. V. Martunek (Ger)
6-2: 6-3.

> TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of US cities to be visited by the Olympic flame on a 3,500-mile, monthlong train journey from Yuma. Arizona, to Chicago starting on 30 April The flame carries on to Atlanta by bicycle, cance, steamboat and horse-

#### pleanwhile Muster reached the semi-finals of the Estoril claycourt event in Lisbon after a 6-4.6-2 win over Spain's Francisco Clavet. The Austrian has yet to months, was in breach of his con- colm remains totally committed drop a set in the tournament. tract with the board in giving the to playing for England."

# 







The relegation dog-fight

in Monday's 26 24-page sports section

> What often bappens is that when the fates open for the first time a new horse will get frightened, and when they're nghened they will in into a brick wall

That's what hap pened to me

in this week's Monday

interview, the lockey Walter Swinburn re-

alls the homilic crash

in Hong Yong a couple

of months ago in which

he nearly lost his life

Golf's first insior of the

Adjuste on Stindey night.

orte from Tim Glover and

Agog on the Tyne.

faltering champlorship chal-lenge? . Coverage . of , their

game at home to Aston VII-

le on Sunday plus reports on all Saturday's Premiership

matches. Plus reports on the key - Endsleigh League

games and the Auto Wind-

Getting the Fridge to

work againt
William The Refrigerator
Perry corries out of retire

ment as the London Mon-

archs lick off the 1996

screens Shield final

# RFU gives in to demands of the clubs

**Rugby Union** 

STEVE BALE

English rugby union's governing body last night as good as capitulated to the leading clubs who have been threatening to secede after a day-long emer-gency session of the Rugby Football Union's full committee at the London Hilton.

In accordance with the wishes of the clubs, Bill Bishop, the RFU president, was drafted into the negotiating team - though still under the nominal chairmanship of Cliff Brittle, the highly contentious RFU executive committee chairman. "We wish the negotiations to continue as speedily as possible." Tony Hallett, the RFU secre-

tary, said. Far more significant is that the RFU has agreed on virtually all of the 12 negotiating positions put to it by the clubs. leaving control of the game itself as the only outstanding issue. It is impossible to believe the clubs will not agree to compromise on this, especially as it now appears they will receive all the monies from the competi-

tions in which they participate. The pressure on the RFU increased when it became clear that England's First Division players, who will be the new prolessionals whoever is in charge.

were ready to side with the clubs rather than the RFU.

This week the clubs' response to the RFU's outright refusal to cede any of its administrative or financial powers over the professional game provoked the clubs into announcing a boycott of next season's RFU league and cup competitions in order to play in their own. A declaration of full-scale independence would have been their next step.

As the RFUs full committee was gathered yesterday, the Bath captain, Phil de Glanville, one of those dealing personally with the warring parties on behalf of the piggies-in-the-middle, pleaded for an accommodation. Lawrence Dallaglio and Paul Johnson, captains of Wasps and Orrell, have also been involved.

"Having looked at the two positions and talked to both sides, we know there's a lot of common ground and a negotiated settlement is feasible," De Glanville said, "But there needs to be a lot of give from both and at the moment there is very little from either.

"If the worst came to the worst, I can't say what every individual player in the First Division would decide but, though we won't say this in public, we have made it very clear to the parties what our position would be if a breakaway occurred." On Thursday English

Professional Rugby Union Clubs claimed they had the players' support and it does appear that if it came to a straight choice the majority would go with Epruc provided the clubs produce the financial packages they claim will be available.

The RFU has the England team - the official version - but the intermittence of international rugby compares unfavourably in career terms with club rugby and the vast majority of First Division players do not play for England and so have no access to international

De Glanville made it clear that the clubs' fixture structure - a two-tier European competition supported by a 24-team Anglo-Weish league and 12-team Eng-lish Conference - would be preferable to the union's with its smaller European involvement and insistence on the intrusion of divisional rugby.

"We're not going to be publicly drawn on one side or the other. To have to choose between club and country is not a position we should ever be put in," De Glanville said, "What is very worrying for the players is that a lot of them have to make career decisions about next season and for them it's a night-

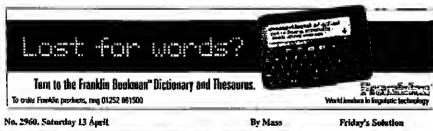
Supercharged Super-12,

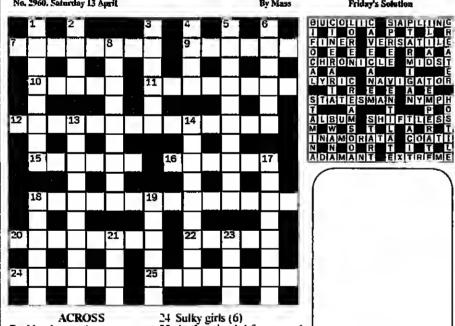


Tee time: Sandy Lyle plays the fourth hole of yesterday's second round

# **Great White Shark casts**

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD





- ACROSS Heed party (party on
- Right) [8) 9 First-class meals on liner
- 10 Neck's punctured by sheep's first ticks (5) 11 Paper round carrier! (8)
- 12 They might well display vital statistics! (14) 15 European's returning
- home in a hurry (6) 16 Ruffles father with trou-
- 18 One holding a Jack? (8-6) o 20 Revue with blue climax
- 22 Light fillet recipe (5)
- DOWN Increase - or fold (8)

25 At the wheel, I fare round

North (2.6)

- One American girl's a goddess (4) Diminutive girl shown
- around State capital (6) Boom town - without gold (4) No, it wasn't hard cheese
- for Capone! (10) Grass's concealing river hirds (6) wished for (9)
- 13 Timber was old and rotting around heart of log
  - 14 Agile cobra slithering with a twitch (9) 17 Always protected by point in one of the "Navigation
- Acts"? (8) 18 Prime fish, perhaps (6)
- 19 Headed investigators. showing rank (6) 21 Love - writer's subject (4) Given cards? Diamond is 23 Fuel slick, about fifth of tanker (4)

Make the longest word you can from RIGOTTSET Friday's Scramble: RADIATION THE FRANKLIN SCRAMBLE

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To enter, phone (89) 311/017 before midnight with the answers to the first three solutions acrosss and down. Leave your answers, your name, address and daytime telephone. Winners will be selected from all correct entries received. No cash alternative. Normal Newspaper Publishing tules apply. Editor's decision is final. Winners names can be obtained by sending an SAE to Franklin Independent Crossword. 7 Windmilt Business Village, Brooklands Close, Sunbury TW16 7DY. Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute all other times.

# large shadow over field

TIM GLOVER reports from Augusta

When Bobby Jones, the moving spirit behind Augusta National, first set eyes on Jack Nicklaus he remarked that he played a game with which he was not familiar. There were many here echoing similar sentiments about Greg Norman following his blazing the Great White Shark was basking in the warm glow of a record-equalling 63, lesser mortals were lost in his wake.

Sam Torrance, the No 2 to Colin Montgomerie on the European Tour last year, and Gordon Sherry, the amateur champion, parted company from the tournament, and from each other, yesterday. Torrance, who had an 80 in the first round, needed a score of Norman proportions to survive the half-way cut and although he improved considerably with a 71, it was not enough.

At seven over par for the championship, Torrance head-ed for the airport. "Every cloud has a silver lining," Torrance said. "I'll be able to watch the tournament at home with my wife and kids." The 22-year-old Sherry added a 77 to a 78 for an aggregate of 155, 11 over par and the first thing he did after signing his score card was to sign

a contract to turn professional. This was the worst experience of my life," Sherry said, "but in the long run I'm sure it will be of great benefit to me." He will

63

O Gifford (GB) B Faxon N Faildo (GB)

S Simpson V Singh |Figt 70

events. Unlike Torrance, Sherry intended to spend the weekend in Augusta but he was not sure whether he would watch the tournament at the course or on television. Fred Couples, who played with Sherry for two rounds here, said: "He should forget about the figures. He's a much better player than that and has a great future ahead of him."

nnisnea two snots in front of the former Open champion Ian Baker-Finch, who had a 79 that included a quadruple-bogey nine at the 13th. Not surprisingly, the Australian, who languishes in Norman's shadow, refused to discuss his performance. He had shared a practice round here with Seve Ballesteros and the two compared notes. It might have had a resonance with the log of the captain of the Titanic. Baker-Finch is dying the death of a 1,000 missed cuts. There were a few players worse off than Baker-Finch, Doug Ford, for example, but Ford, the Masters champion in 1957, is 73

years of age.

Meanwhile, Norman appears to have taken a leaf out of the book of the Sri Lankan openers in his approach this year to the Masters. He has been a notoriously slow starter at Augusta National and traditionally reserves his best for a final-round charge. On Thursday his 63 matched the record set by Nick Price in the

M Ozaki (Japa L Roberts 72

M Brooks

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I Woosnam (GB)
J Leogard

73

S Ballesteros (Sp) G Player (SA) M Campbell (NZ)

A Cejke (Ger) C Stadler

third round 10 years ago. "I'll be able to reflect on this for many years to come," Norman said. But only if he wears make his debut as a profession- the Green Jacket on Sunday

R Floyd O Frost (SA) J Gallagher Jns J Nicklaus

al in the Italian Open and has re-ceived invitations to six other evening. The 41-year-old Nor-man, playing in his 16th Masters, failed to break par in the first round of seven of his previous nine appearances. His nine birdies from the seventh hole gave him a two-stroke lead over the left-hander Phil Mickelson and both had glorious hack nines, coming home in 30, one shot off the record achieved by Mark Calcavecchia in 1992.

Norman, who has finished in the top six in the en occasions, said: "You just try to keep the momentum going that's within you. I'm excited but I'm not going to let it get away from me." Norman has won the Open Championship twice but has never landed a major in the United States despite being the world No 1. No one has ever shot lower than 63 in any of the four majors and Norman is the only player to do it in two of them. His other 63 came in the second round of the 1986 Open at Turnberry.

Putting is the key to winning the Masters and Norman had only 27 putts in the first round, nine below regulation. "When you get into the kind of roll that I was in it feels very comfort-able," he said. "Hey, let it happen. Let the reins of the horse go and let him run as fast he wants." In an attempt to pull in the reins, the tournament committee thought long and hard about the pin positions for the second round yesterday. The speed of the greens and the placing of the flags are the only two defences the course has against

a major assault. They will not

want to see the Masters won with

75

Early second-round scores

an overwhelming score and, short of placing the flagsticks in the middle of the bunkers or lakes, they came up with some fiendish placements yesterday. Some, including Tom Watson,

would argue that the position of the flags in the first round was tricky enough. At the par-three 16th, David Gilford, in an otherwise exemplary round, had four putts and that was one fewer than Watson. He took a six three over par, and yesterday he was making progress until he had a six at the 15th. Corey Pavin also had a 75 in the first round but yesterday

proved that, devilish pin positions or not, the course was eminently playable. Pavin shot 66 to move from three over to three under. The field is pared to 44 plus ties after the second round. those within 10 shots of the lead also making the cut. With a 67 or less, Norman would break Raymond Floyd's 36-hole tournament record of 13 under 131 set in 1976. Under the 10-shot rule players would have to score at least a four-under-par aggregate of 140 to make the cut and avoid a lost weekend.

and avoid a lost weekend.
60th US MASTERS (Augusta): Early secondround scores (US wides stated, "denothes
sensiteuris 141. C Pavin 75 68, 145.1 Eurys,
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S Ethington (Aust 78 79, 3 Herringer 76 79,
157 I Batter-Rinch (Aust 78 79, 153 C Weitmann 79 81; M McCumber 78 82; J Countile
let 78 82; 169 D Ford 81 88.

C Rocca (it)

\*J Courville Jrn

79.

W Austin

81

### World League season against the Scottish Claydrugs scandal.

mores. Plus a report from America on the current gridfrom hero whose career is in tomorrow's

Independent on Sunday



"Although he doesn't need the money, the world's most expensive footballer wants to become a manager. I want to manage in England and abroad, he said before pausing. And I want to manage England"." David Platt talks to lan Ridley about the states of Arsenal, English football, and his own ca-

There have been faults on all sides but of the three parties involved; the RFU. the clubs and the players, the villains in chief are the clubs... Peter Wheeler says they are not Johnny Come. Latelies' trying to hijack the game, but that is exactly what they are. Chris Rea dissects the debate which has been tearing rugby union apart this week.

Andrew Baker examines the credentials of the man most likely to upset Stephen Hendry at the World Snooker Champlorship in Sheffield - John Higgins - while An-drew Farrell and Tim Glover report from the US Masters at Augusta.

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